

November 19, 2009

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty  
Premier of Ontario and Minister of Research and Innovation  
Hepburn Block, room 281, Main Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier McGuinty:

**Subject: Request to Extend the 100% Funding for the Assessment of Small Drinking Water Systems Based on Inspection Times of the Ministry of the Environment**

At its October 28, 2009 regular meeting, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit passed the following resolution:

**Resolution #BOH/2009/10/10**

*Whereas, The provision of safe drinking water is a right of the people living in and visiting areas covered by the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit; and*

*Whereas, The Government of Ontario downloaded the regulation of Small Drinking Water Systems from the Ministry of the Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and in turn, down to local health units; and,*

*Whereas, The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has paid 100% dollars for the startup of the program from 2008 to 2009 and has agreed to pay for part of 2010; and,*

*Whereas, The initiation of the program was delayed substantially due to a delay in passing of the legislation (December 2008) and the rollout of the Risk Assessment Tool; and,*

*Whereas, The North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit has an estimated 1,025 small drinking water systems to assess; and,*

*Whereas, The Ministry of the Environment has shown in our coverage area that it requires 42 hours to complete an average drinking water system inspection; and,*

*Whereas, The initial funding allotment from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care estimated that northern health units would be allotted an average of 7 hours for each small drinking water inspection;*

**Letter To:** The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
**Subject:** Request to Extend the 100% Funding for the Assessment of Small Drinking Water Systems  
Based on Inspection Times of the Ministry of the Environment  
**Date:** November 19, 2009

---

*Now Therefore Be It Resolved, That the Board of Health of the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit request the Government of Ontario to consider extending the 100% funding for the assessment of Small Drinking Water Systems based on inspection times of the Ministry of the Environment, and*

*Furthermore Be It Resolved, That a copy of this Board of Health resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of the Environment, local Members of Provincial Parliament, Ontario Boards of Health, Member Municipalities, and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies.*

Thank you for your consideration of this request and I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Mac Bain, Chairperson  
Board of Health

Copied to:

- 1) The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
- 2) The Honourable John Gerretsen, Minister of Environment
- 3) Tim Hudak, Leader of Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
- 4) Andrea Horwath, Leader of New Democratic Party of Ontario
- 5) The Honourable Monique Smith, MPP (Nipissing)
- 6) Norm Miller, MPP (Parry Sound/Muskoka)
- 7) David Ramsay, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane)
- 8) Ontario Boards of Health
- 9) Member Municipalities
- 10) Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies