



RESOLUTION

Had

Date: March 2, 2005

Resolution #: 05-2005
West Nile Virus - Funding for Ongoing Risk Assessment

MOVED BY: Bob Labine

SECONDED BY: Desmond Henningway

Regulation 199 under the Health Protection and Promotion Act provides Health Units with a detailed plan of action regarding the larviciding and adulticiding of mosquitoes when dealing with human health risk from West Nile Virus (WNV) in Ontario.

Based on the experience in Timiskaming, it has been found that surveillance and careful analysis of the data has ensured the safety of the public without the needless use of pesticides. It is recommended that the legislation be expanded to advise Health Units not to larvicide or adulticide if survey results indicate human risk of infection with WNV is minimal.

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has legislated, through Bill 199, municipalities to engage in mosquito larvaciding programs;

AND WHEREAS proposed mosquito abatement programs potentially have an environmental and financial impact on communities;

AND WHEREAS a comprehensive risk assessment for West Nile virus that considers the bio-diversity of the entire province would require more than five years of data from light traps, larval dipping and geographic information system mapping;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Timiskaming Board of Health requests the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to provide adequate and continued funding and resources for ongoing risk assessment, to ensure a scientifically sound and environmentally sensitive implementation of Bill 199, in order to protect the citizens of Ontario against West Nile virus.

AND FURTHERMORE THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care; the Chief Medical Officer of Health; Minister of the Environment; Local MPP; Ontario Boards of Health; the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA); and constituent municipalities.

- Carried
 Defeated
 Deferred

Desmond Henningway

Vice-Chair - Board of Health