

September 25, 2024 - #BOH/2024/09/05

Whereas, the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Health are undertaking a review of the funding approach for local public health agencies; and

Whereas, many factors such as the geography, dispersed population, and less robust infrastructure and service availability in northern Ontario drive up the cost of delivering public health services; and

Whereas, residents of northern Ontario in general have poorer health outcomes compared to their southern counterparts, including a more than 50% higher average avoidable mortality rate¹, and a 300% higher rate of opioid-related deaths²; and

Whereas, the Perspectives from Northern Ontario on the Public Health Funding Review letter outlines many of the equity considerations related to the funding approach for local public health agencies in northern Ontario;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit endorses the aforementioned letter; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, that copies of this resolution and the letter be sent to the Dr. Kieran Moore (Chief Medical Officer of Health), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Ontario Minister of Health), Elizabeth Walker (Executive Lead, Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health), Boards of Health of Ontario, the Honourable Vic Fedeli (MPP, Nipissing), the Honourable Graydon Smith (MPP, Muskoka-Parry Sound), and the Honourable John Vanthof (MPP, Timiskaming-Cochrane), *Association of Municipalities of Ontario, The District of Parry Sound Municipal Association, and member Municipalities.*

¹ Public Health Ontario, "Potentially Avoidable Mortality Health Equity Snapshot," [Online]. Available: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/Data-and-Analysis/Health-Equity/Avoidable-Mortality-Health-Inequities>. [Accessed 29 July 2024].

² Ontario Drug Policy Research Network and Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). Characteristics of substance-related toxicity deaths in Ontario: Stimulant, opioid, benzodiazepine, and alcohol-related deaths. Toronto, ON: Ontario Drug Policy Research Network; 2023.