

September 25, 2015



Hon Eric Hoskins
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4
ehoskins.mpp@liberal.ola.org

Re: Public Health Funding

On September 25, 2015, the Board of Health for the Grey Bruce Health Unit considered the attached resolution from Porcupine Health Unit and passed the following resolution, #2015-88.

Moved by: Mitch Twolan

Seconded by: David Shearman

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has, on September 4, 2015, released the 2013 report of the Funding Review Working Group with respect to a public health funding model for Mandatory Programs, which it has accepted for the 2015 budget year and beyond; and

WHEREAS, based upon current information, the model indicates that approximately 80% of Public Health Units in the Province of Ontario are overfunded, which in and of itself calls into question, the validity of said model; and

WHEREAS, in some large centres there is a possibility that these extra public health funds could effectively be consumed by larger municipal budgets and not utilized for additional public health services; and

WHEREAS, under this model, health units who have been identified as being overfunded, may have many years of shrinking public health services, in the face of higher costs, due to having to deal with a flatlined budget allocation;

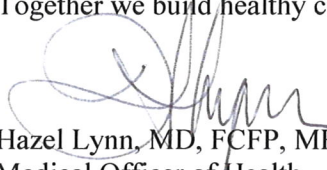
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Health for the Grey Bruce Health Unit support the resolution from the Porcupine Health Unit and opposes this new funding model and the radical long-term shifting of public health resources to wealthier urban centres of the Province, at the direct expense of Northern and Rural Health Units in the Province, who are much less able to replace those lost funds than our growing urban centered health units, and

FURTHER THAT, the Board of Health for the Grey Bruce Health Unit calls for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to reverse their decision to support this report, and revise the funding formula which appears biased against smaller, Northern and Rural Health Units; and

FURTHER THAT, this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, AMO, ROMA, alPHa, Local MP's and MPP's, All Municipalities in Grey and Bruce Counties and All Ontario Boards of Health.

Carried

Together we build healthy communities,


Hazel Lynn, MD, FCFP, MHSc
Medical Officer of Health
Grey Bruce Health Unit

Working together for a healthier future for all..

101 17th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 0A5 www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca



Porcupine

Health Unit • Bureau de santé

September 21, 2015

Dear Public Health Stakeholder,

Please find attached, a copy of Resolution #2015.39 adopted by the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit, at its meeting held September 18, 2015.

The Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit strongly objects to the radical change in public health funding, in the Province of Ontario, which the Province has begun implementing in 2015.

It is the Board of Health's position that this drastic change will effectively transfer scarce public health financial resources to areas of the Province of relative health and wealth, and away from those areas of the Province such as Northern and rural areas, which have the greatest public health needs.

We would request your support in opposing this massive redistribution of public health funding in Ontario.

Yours very truly,

Donald W West BMath, CPA, CA
Chief Administrative Officer

DW:mc

Encl.

pc: Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM)
Northeastern Ontario Municipal Association (NEOMA)
Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Local Member Municipalities
Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health & Long-Term Care (MOHLTC)
Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Provincial Party Leaders
Northern Members of Provincial Parliament
Ontario Nurses Association (ONA)
Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE)
Ontario Boards of Health

Head Office:
169 Pine Street South
Postal Bag 2012
Timmins, ON P4N 8B7

Phone: 705 267 1181
Fax: 705 264 3980
Toll Free: 800 461 1818

email: info4you@porcupinehu.on.ca
Website: www.porcupinehu.on.ca

Branch Offices: Cochrane, Hearst,
Hornepayne, Iroquois Falls,
Kapuskasing, Matheson,
Moosonee, Smooth Rock Falls

Date: 15 / 09 / 18
y m d

R-2015.39

MOVED BY: Gilles Chartrand

SECONDED BY: Claude Bourassa

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has, on September 4, 2015, released the 2013 report of the Funding Review Working Group with respect to a public health funding model for Mandatory Programs which it has accepted for the 2015 budget year and beyond; and

WHEREAS, based upon current information, the model indicates that approximately 80% of Public Health Units in the Province of Ontario are overfunded, which in and of itself calls into question, the validity of said model; and

WHEREAS, this funding model will result in an inevitable significant long-term transfer of public health resources to relatively wealthier, and healthier, large urban settings, and will cause reductions in public health services in Northern and rural areas of the Province; and

WHEREAS, in some large centres there is a possibility that these extra public health funds could effectively be consumed by larger municipal budgets and not utilized for additional public health services; and

WHEREAS, under this model, health units who have been identified as being overfunded, may have many years of shrinking public health services, in the face of higher costs, due to having to deal with a flatlined budget allocation; and

WHEREAS, Unorganized Territories funding for public health services will not be allocated in the same manner as the Mandatory Programs funding, it appears that equitable access to public health resources depend on where you live in this Province, and since only Northern health units have Unorganized Territories funding, and the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has indicated that there will only be a one-time adjustment to that funding, this model, with its implementation inconsistencies, is particularly detrimental to those health units in Northern Ontario;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit opposes this new funding model and the radical long-term shifting of public health resources to wealthier urban centres of the Province, at the direct expense of Northern and rural health units in the Province, who are much less able to replace those lost funds than our growing urban centred health units; and

FURTHERMORE THAT, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care reverse their decision to support this report, which appears biased against smaller, Northern, and rural health units; and

FURTHERMORE THAT, this resolution be forwarded to FONOM, NEOMA, NOMA, alPHA, local member municipalities, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Premier of Ontario, Provincial Party leaders, Northern members of Provincial Parliament, ONA, CUPE, and Ontario Boards of Health.

Head Office:
169 Pine Street South
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Fax: 705 264 3980
Toll Free: 800 461 1818

email: info4you@porcupinehu.on.ca
Website: www.porcupinehu.on.ca

(circle as appropriate)
<input checked="" type="radio"/> CARRIED <input type="radio"/> DEFEATED



Chair - Board of Health

Branch Offices: Cochrane, Hearst,
Hornepayne, Iroquois Falls,
Kapuskasing, Matheson,
Moosonee, Smooth Rock Falls