



Sudbury & District

## Health Unit

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March 27, 2009

Mr. Gary Champagne  
Chief Administrative Officer  
Manitoulin-Sudbury District Social Services Administration Board  
210 Mead Boulevard  
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9

Dear Mr. Champagne:

**Re: Put Food in the Budget Campaign**

At its March 19, 2009, the Sudbury & District Board of Health carried the following motion #15-09:

*WHEREAS a nutritious diet is essential for health and poor nutrition leads to inadequate growth and development in children and also leads to an increased risk of chronic and infectious diseases; and*

*WHEREAS the Ontario Hunger Report 2008 indicated food bank use in Sudbury increased by 34.4 per cent from September 2007 to September 2008; and*

*WHEREAS the Analysis of Ontario sample in Cycle 2.2 of the Canadian Community Health Survey (2004) revealed that food insecurity was reported in over 60 per cent of households in which the main source of income was social assistance; and*

*WHEREAS under motion 59-08 the Sudbury & District Board of Health requested that the provincial poverty reduction plan incorporate Nutritious Food Basket findings from across the province in developing targets and strategies; and*

*WHEREAS the Sudbury & District Health Unit has supported the Community Strategy to Reduce Poverty in the City of Greater Sudbury (2008) and has endorsed the 25 in 5 Founding Declaration; and*

*WHEREAS the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) is partnering with the 25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction in an Ontario wide campaign, "Put Food in the Budget", to urge the Ontario government to add a Healthy Food Supplement to the Basic Needs Allowance for all adult recipients of social assistance, as part of the Spring 2009 budget; and*

*WHEREAS the Healthy Food Supplement, a \$100 monthly supplement for all adults receiving social assistance, will support the province in making progress on its stated commitment to reduce poverty by 25 per cent over the next 5 years; and*

*An Accredited Teaching Health Unit  
Centre agréé d'enseignement en santé*

Letter  
Re: Put Food in the Budget Campaign  
March 20, 2009

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health support the "Put Food in the Budget" campaign and inform the Premier, local Members of Provincial Parliament, aPHa and the 25 in 5 Network for Poverty Reduction of the same; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health share this motion with appropriate community agencies and constituent municipalities and seek their respective support.*

We all know nutritious food is essential to good health, but the gap between what it costs to eat a healthy diet and the income people receive on social assistance is getting wider. We encourage you to support this motion.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer