

March 5, 2010

Honourable Madeleine Meilleur Minister of Community and Social Services 6th Floor, Hepburn Block 80 Grosvenor Street Toronto ON M7A 1E9

Dear Minister,

RE: Ontario Works Food and Shelter Adequacy

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention that, at its regular monthly meeting of February 25, 2010, the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) adopted Resolution No. 10-24 re Ontario Works Food and Shelter Adequacy.

Please note that these Resolutions have also been shared with the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) for consideration at their Annual General Meeting, April 28 - 30, 2010. A duly authorized copy of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB Resolutions No. 10-24 is enclosed.

Yours truly,

J. Ray Chénier, Chair

cc. Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association

Encl (1)



MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD CONSEIL D'ADMINISTRATION DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DU DISTRICT DE MANITOULIN-SUDBURY

RESOLUTION 10-24

DATE: February 25, 2010

MOVED BY: A. MacNevin SECONDED BY: E. Freeborn

WHEREAS a nutritious diet is a basic requirement for health while poor nutrition leads to an increased risk for chronic and infectious diseases, pregnancy outcomes with greater risk for low birth weight, and has a negative impact on the growth and development of children; and

WHEREAS Boards of Health annually monitor food affordability in their jurisdictions in accordance with the Nutritious Food Basket Protocol, 2008, and the Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol, 2008, as outlined in the Ontario Public Health Standards; and

WHEREAS the 2009 Nutritious Food Basket Report demonstrates that local households on social assistance or earning minimum wage cannot afford a nutritious diet after paying for housing costs and other necessities; and

WHEREAS the 2008 Ontario Hunger Report revealed that food bank use increased across Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Analysis of Ontario Sample in Cycle 2.2 of the Canadian Community Health Survey (2004) revealed that 9.7% of households in the Northern Ontario Health Region are food insecure and that households most vulnerable to food insecurity are those on a low income, especially those relying on social assistance;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association call on the provincial government to renew their efforts to ensure that the Poverty Reduction Strategy for Ontario remains a high priority; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the provincial government review increases to social programs, such as an increase to Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Programs, by providing a monthly \$100 Healthy Food Supplement to all adults receiving social assistance; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT in addition to addressing Ontarians' ability to meet their basic food requirements, the provincial government is asked to establish a broad-based rent/housing allowance/assistance program for all low-income persons.

_____original signed by Ray Chénier_____ CHAIR

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS	MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
BROWN, GARY			LEONARD, DAVID		
CHENIER, J. RAYMOND			MacNEVIN, AL		
FREEBORN, EARLE			McMILLAN, JACK		
GAMBLE, LESLIE			PITFIELD, MORGAN		
GOLDEN, DENNIS			QUIBELL, SHELLEY		
KILLAH, BRUCE			TUOMI, MARGARET		
LEHOUX, MIKE			WENBORNE, DEAN		