



**NORTHERN ONTARIO  
SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION**

December 22, 2009

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

Dear Minister:

**RE: RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO ELECTION GUIDELINES FOR  
ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES OF TERRITORIES WITHOUT  
MUNICIPAL ORGANIZATION (TWOMO'S) FOR POSITIONS ON  
DISTRICT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARDS**

---

The Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) is an incorporated body that brings together 11 of Northern Ontario's 12 Municipal Service Managers. All eleven are responsible for the local planning, coordination and delivery of a range of community health and social services that the Province of Ontario divested to them to locally manage. These services represent a significant portion of the social infrastructure of all Northern Ontario's municipalities and also account for a good share of the property taxes that Northern Ontario municipalities dedicate to the social support infrastructure of their municipalities.

NOSDA is primarily composed of nine District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) that are unique to Northern Ontario; and two municipalities (also known as Consolidated Municipal Service Managers (CMSMs) – the City of Greater Sudbury and the District Municipality of Muskoka.

Northern Ontario's municipal service managers collectively have annual expenditures in excess of \$650,000,000 and together employ over 1,000 people. We thus represent a significant component of Northern Ontario's economy and labour force.

We plan and coordinate the Northern Ontario delivery of public services and infrastructure programs that result in measurable gains to the quality of life of Northerners through:

1. the provision of financial and other supports to persons having difficulty entering or re-entering the labour force;
2. the creation, maintenance and provision of affordable, social housing;



**NORTHERN ONTARIO  
SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION**

3. the provision of quality of early learning and child care services that reassure their parents that their children are in safe, nurturing environments while they busy themselves at work or upgrading their skills;
4. the provision of emergency medical services in times of personal crisis

As you know, NOSDA members are also responsible for conducting elections of their members from Territories without Municipal Organization (TWOMO's). We respectfully suggest that the following items be changed in the TWOMO Election Guidelines BEFORE next year's (2010) elections:

- The quality of Voters Lists provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation needs to be improved. A lot of work has to be done to make the information that is provided by MPAC (which is basically the Tax Roll for a TWOMO), into a Voters List for any given area where they are required. We ask that this be examined with a view to improving the Voters Lists provided by MPAC.
- In addition, in the event that election costs exceed the \$15,000 limit the Province must increase the allowable expenses to reflect the actual costs of an election of a representative on a provincially mandated Board as there is no authority under the DSSAB Act that allows election costs in the Unincorporated Territories to be cost shared by municipal property taxpayers.
- Finally, we would like the opportunity to discuss the qualifications and guidelines for the Qualification of Electors and the Qualification of Members Elected to Represent Territories without Municipal Organization with you and appropriate officials of your Ministry at our Annual General Meeting in April, 2010. A letter of invitation will be mailed under separate cover in the New Year.

If the DSSAB Act is to remain in place beyond 2010 the Ministry should seriously consider including all of the election guidelines in the Regulation rather than continuing as a 'guideline'. The guidelines could still be published because they clarify the intent of the Regulation, but they would then reference the pertinent sections in the Regulation where appropriate.

We would welcome the opportunity to be consulted on this important matter. Please contact us, and together let's move forward on this important matter.



**NORTHERN ONTARIO  
SERVICE DELIVERERS ASSOCIATION**

Our very best Season's Greetings.

Yours sincerely,

*Gary W. Scipnick!*

Gary Scipnick, President