Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Office of the Minister

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## OCT 0 3 2014

Mr. Gary Scripnick President Northern Service Deliverers Association c/o The Cochrane District Social Services Administration Board 500 Algonquin Blvd. East Timmins, ON P4N 1B7

Dear Mr. Scripnick:

I would like to thank you and your Chief Administrative Officers, David Landers and Fern Dominelli, for taking the time to meet with me at the recent Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference in London.

Your input and knowledge of local matters are important to me, and I appreciated hearing your concerns related to the shortage of affordable housing in Northern Ontario. It was helpful to hear your ideas about developing a new model to define "deep core need" that takes into consideration at risk groups such as Aboriginals, Francophones and victims of violence. It is also critical that all housing partners and stakeholders ensure the federal government is continually made aware of the pressing local need and the urgency for federal long-term funding.

Our government is committed to building a strong provincial-municipal relationship to support stronger communities across Ontario. To that end, I look forward to working with you and your colleagues in the months ahead.

If your staff would like to discuss these matters further, ministry staff would be pleased to assist them. Please feel free to contact David King, Local Government and Housing Manager in the Northern Municipal Services Office at 705-564-6853 or <a href="mailto:david.king@ontario.ca">david.king@ontario.ca</a>.

Once again, thank you for meeting with me at the conference. Together we will help build Ontario up.

Best Regards.

Ted McMeekin Minister

c. Gilles Bisson, MPP, (Timmins –James Bay)