

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
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Ministère des Services à l'enfance et des services sociaux et communautaires
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Social Assistance Operations Division

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December 21, 2018

Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board

Dear Mr. Les Gamble and Mr. Fern Dominelli:

In follow-up to the letter from the Honourable Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, dated December 20, 2018, we are writing to provide you with further details on the recently enacted regulatory amendments relating to the method of apportionment of costs for mandated services.

Effective December 20, 2018, the government has amended provincial regulations under the *District Social Services Administration Boards Act*, the *Ambulance Act*, and the *Housing Services Act, 2011*, such that:

For the period December 11, 2017, through December 31, 2019, the board shall use the method of cost apportionment for Ontario Works, housing and land ambulance services that the board was using on December 10, 2017.

These provisions also apply to the method of apportionment for the costs of child care services in districts where there is not otherwise an agreement in place among all municipalities respecting those costs.

These changes extend the current moratorium, and effectively 'freeze' the method of apportionment (or apportionment formula) currently used in your district until December 31, 2019. Note: these changes do not freeze, or otherwise impact, total costs for mandated services during this period.

As indicated in Minister MacLeod's letter, the ministry will be working in cooperation with partner ministries to undertake focused discussions on the following three areas of DSSAB governance:

- Exploring ways to ensure that alternate cost apportionment formulas reflect the collective responsibility of all municipalities for the provision of services to residents in a District;

- Exploring an effective mechanism for resolving conflicts that arise with respect to the apportionment of costs; and
- Enhancing understanding of the role of DSSABs, Board functions and responsibilities and transparency of decision making and communication.

To ensure we hear the perspectives of DSSABs and municipalities, we will be engaging the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, in these discussions.

The extension of the current moratorium will allow time for these further discussions to occur.

We will provide further details on plans for next steps in January.

Please share this information with your board members and district members.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact either one of us directly.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Original Signed by

Aklilu Tefera
Interim Assistant Deputy Minister
Social Policy Development Division

Richard Steele
Assistant Deputy Minister
Social Assistance Operations Division

CC: Melissa Farrell, Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Emergency Services Division, MOHLTC
Janet Hope, Assistant Deputy Minister, Housing Division, MMAH
Kate Manson-Smith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government and Planning Policy Division, MMAH
Shannon Fuller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Years and Child Care Division, EDU
Anna Cain, Director, Ontario Works Branch
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