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March 3, 2020

Minister Steve Clark
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto ON
M5G 2E5

SENT VIA E-MAIL: <a href="mailto:steve.clark@pc.ola.org">steve.clark@pc.ola.org</a>

## Dear Minister Clark:

The purpose of this letter is to bring to your attention that, at its regular monthly meeting of February 27, 2020, the Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board adopted the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit - Issue Report and Resolution #20-17.

A duly authorized copy of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Resolution # 20-17 is attached as well as the Issue Report calling upon the Federal and Provincial governments to reconsider the <a href="Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit Guidelines">Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit Guidelines</a> and create flexibility as one size does not work well for Northern Ontario, particularly for small rural and remote communities whose existing resources are stretched to the maximum.

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB is extremely concerned that the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit does not consider the actual rent paid or utilities costs in the calculation. This is of particular concern in Northern Ontario where natural gas is not available in many communities and Hydro One rates are exorbitant.

Respectfully,

Leslie Gamble

Chair, Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB

c.c. Minister Jean-Yves Duclos

MP Carol Hughes MP Marc Serré
MP Paul Lefebvre MPP John Vanthof

MPP Mike Mantha DSB Member Municipalities

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