



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

**RESOLUTION 06-22**

DATE: March 23, 2006

MOVED BY: Frank Gillis

SECONDED BY: Earle Freeborn

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB is the province's designated child care service system manager for the Manitoulin and Sudbury Districts (excluding the City of Greater Sudbury); and

WHEREAS the Province mandated the DSSAB to coordinate and oversee the Ontario government's Best Start community planning process in said Manitoulin-Sudbury District jurisdiction, an initiative that was made possible as a result of the Canada-Ontario Agreement on Early Learning and Care entered into between Ontario and the former Federal (Liberal) government; and

WHEREAS said Early Learning and Care community planning process called upon the DSSAB to establish a Manitoulin-Sudbury District Best Start Network whose specified role it was to identify the initial phase of the Manitoulin-Sudbury community's Best Start Integrated Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury Best Start Network did complete its Phase 1 Best Start Integrated Implementation Plan by the end of January of 2006; and

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB was asked to inform the Ministry of Child and Youth Services (MCYS) by resolution and by no later than March 31, 2006 of its endorsement or not of the Phase 1 - Best Start Integrated Implementation Plan prepared by its Manitoulin-Sudbury Best Start Network, and

WHEREAS there is a great deal of uncertainty as to the future of Ontario's Best Start Early Learning and Care plans that comes with the new federal government's announced cancellation of the Canada-Ontario agreement and the impact this will have in that it terminates plans for the building of a significant number of school based hubs, licensed child care spaces, fee subsidy spaces, wage subsidy for child care employees, special needs resourcing for children and their families; and

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB is prepared to continue, per the provincial government's instructions, with the Best Start implementation process; and

WHEREAS the continuation of the local Best Start implementation, under the standard 80-20 provincial-municipal cost sharing arrangement, could cost the DSSAB, and by extension its member municipalities, an additional \$371,520 municipal contribution in 2007-08;

BE IT HEREIN RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB indicate to the Ministry of Child and Youth Services (MCYS) that it endorses the Manitoulin-Sudbury Best Start Integrated Implementation Plan prepared by the Manitoulin-Sudbury Best Start Network; and

BE IT HEREIN FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the DSSAB indicate to the Ministry of Child and Youth Services that said endorsement of this Plan remains conditional upon the MCYS indication that the DSSAB, and by extension its member municipalities, will not have to bear any

portion of the ongoing costs associated with the Ministry's approved implementation of any portion of the Best Start Network's Best Start initiatives; and

BE IT HEREIN FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the DSSAB also indicate to the Ministry of Child and Youth Services that it can not and will not, at this time, commit the DSSAB to the future funding or cost sharing of any portion of the Early Learning and Child Care (Best Start) programs and initiatives that the province might approve for implementation, as the DSSAB has no knowledge of either the cost of said programs or the municipal cost-sharing terms and expectations of the province, if any, with respect to these programs and initiatives; and

THAT the DSSAB's Chair write to the Federal Minister of Human Resources and Social Development to recommend that the Canada-Ontario Agreement on Child Care continue for its full term, until 2010;

AND FURTHER, THAT the DSSAB's Chair write to the Provincial Minister of Children and Youth Services to recommend that the province continue to provide Best Start funding to the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSSAB as planned through March 2008, should federal funding be decreased or terminated;

AND FURTHER, THAT the DSSAB copy all of our jurisdiction's MPs and MPPs on correspondence concerning Best Start;

AND FURTHER THAT the DSSAB implement the 05/06 Transition plan and the Integrated Implementation Plan utilizing the 05/06 unconditional grant in a manner that supports the DSSAB's child care system without creating the on-going expectation for additional DSSAB/municipal funding;

AND FURTHER, THAT unless Provincial funding for the Best Start program is continued beyond 2006, the fee and wages subsidies, special needs program funding, administration and other program funding implemented in 2005 and 2006 as part of the Best Start program be phased out through 2007/2010, using the remaining Best Start unconditional grant.

CARRIED

\_\_\_\_\_ original signed by Ray Chénier \_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS	MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
BEST, PAT			KILLAH, BRUCE		
BIDAL, FERNAND			LEHOUX, MIKE		
BOURGEOIS, COLLIN			LOW, LAURIER		
CHÉNIER, RAY			ROHN, BUD		
FREEBORN, EARLE			STEPHENS, RICHARD		
GAMBLE, LESLIE			VAN ALSTINE, MAUREEN		
GILLIS, FRANK			VAN EVERY, DALE		