

RESOLUTION 13-106

DATE: November 28, 2013

MOVED BY: Dennis Golden

SECONDED BY: André Byham

WHEREAS, a stable and secure housing system that creates and maintains jobs and allows for a range of living options is essential to attracting new workers, meeting the needs of young families and supporting seniors and our most vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS the high cost of housing is the most urgent financial issue facing Canadians with one in four people paying more than they can afford for housing, and mortgage debt held by Canadians now standing at just over \$1.1 trillion; and

WHEREAS housing costs and, as the Bank of Canada notes, household debt, are undermining Canadians' personal financial security, while putting our national economy at risk; and

WHEREAS those who cannot afford to purchase a home rely on the short supply of rental units, which is driving up rental costs and making it hard to house workers in regions experiencing strong economic activity; and

WHEREAS an inadequate supply of subsidized housing for those in need is pushing some of the most vulnerable Canadians on to the street, while \$1.7 billion annually in federal investments in social housing have begun to expire; and

WHEREAS the stakes are especially high for Ontario's municipal governments as housing responsibilities have already been downloaded (unlike other provinces and territories) and this is not sustainable on the property tax base; and

WHEREAS, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has launched a housing campaign, "Fixing Canada's Housing Crunch," calling on the federal government to increase housing options for Canadians and to work with all orders of government to develop a long-term plan for Canada's housing future; and

WHEREAS FCM has asked its member municipalities to pass a council resolution supporting the campaign; and

WHEREAS, our community has continuing housing needs, as detailed in the <u>10-Year</u> <u>Housing and Homelessness Plan</u>, that can only be met through the kind of long-term planning and investment made possible by federal leadership; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB endorses the Federation of Canadian Municipalities housing campaign and urges the Minister of Employment and Social Development to develop a long-term plan for housing that puts core investments on solid ground, increases predictability, protects Canadians from the planned expiry of \$1.7 billion in social housing agreements and ensures a healthy stock of affordable rental housing for Canadians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honourable Jason Kenney, Minister of Employment and Social Development, to Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Michael Mantha, MPP Algoma-Manitoulin, Carol Hughes, MP Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing, Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Carried

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MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS	MEMBER	YEAS	NAYS
ADDISON, LOU			LEONARD, DAVID		
BYHAM, ANDRE			McMILLAN, JACK		
FLYNN, SONJA			MARTIN-CROSS, SHAWNDA		
GAMBLE, LESLIE			MOFFATT, PAUL		
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