



2021 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2021- 6

Subject: **Public Health Crisis in the North**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Richard Malette**

Seconded By: **Brian Bigger**

WHEREAS Northern Ontario is in the middle of Public Health Crisis where the number of opioid deaths has far exceeded the number of deaths related to the COVID-19 Pandemic; and

WHEREAS the deaths related to COVID are tragic and have been felt all across Northern Ontario, the Mental Health and Addictions Crisis is devastating to communities because of the lack of Mental Health and Addictions resources available in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS this Public Health Crisis affects all aspects of the services and people NOSDA members serve; and

WHEREAS the province and each provincial Ministry has a role to play in dealing with this Public Health Crisis; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is responsible for providing safe and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Children, Community & Social Services is responsible for financial assistance to the most vulnerable; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health is responsible for providing Emergency Health Services and health services; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education is responsible for providing safe, affordable and quality Early Learning and Child Care;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Solicitor General is responsible for Correctional Facilities and the safe discharge planning for those in their custody; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is responsible for working to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses, promoting and enforcing employment standards including the Health and Safety of all employees; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Long Term Care is responsible for working to end hallway medicine, reduce waitlists and ensure that our long-term care sector has a proper path forward to handle the growing elderly population.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to take an all of government approach to manage and find solutions to the Public Health Crisis in the North; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier to establish a Northern Ontario Joint Partnership table to manage the Public Health Crisis in Northern Ontario.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA work with the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA) and Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) to work with the province to deal with Public Health Crisis.



Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



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Resolution # 2021- 7

Subject: **Mental Health and Addictions**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Doug Jelly**

Seconded By: **Brian Bigger**

WHEREAS the Northern Ontario region has significant access issues and wait-lists for mental health and addictions services impacting our communities and clients; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members do not have the capacity to address mental health or addiction issues facing their clients in Ontario Works, Community Housing and Paramedic Services without the help of community service delivery partners; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members deliver services that are integral to the health service continuum and yet those services are limited in their efficacy due to the lack of integration with health service providers

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ministry of Health establish a joint partnership committee with the Ontario Health agency and NOSDA members, recognizing the Service System Manager role of the NOSDA members, to ensure direct funding is secured by the mental health and addictions service providers to provide the necessary supports to NOSDA members as required; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA continue to advocate for mental health and addictions system capacity so that those Mental Health Associations and organizations can and will provide appropriate support to community housing residents that require service.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



2021 Annual General Meeting
Virtual AGM

Resolution # 2021- 8

Originator: **Housing Services & Homelessness Working Group**
Subject: **Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) Funding**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Debbie Ewald**

Seconded By: **Lucy Kloosterhuis**

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned with current allocation method used by the province under the Social Services Relief Fund; and

WHEREAS the funding formula for the Social Services Relief Fund does not appear to be based on evidence and/or statistical data and in the attempt to appear equitable has precluded a strategic response to actual need; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned that the province will look at a new funding allocation for the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) and Home for Good programs which may mirror the Social Services Relief Fund allocations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA call on the province to maintain the current CHPI funding allocations as a minimum threshold and that additional funds be allocated based on a strategic response to demonstrated need.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



2021 Annual General Meeting
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Resolution # 2021- 9

Originator: **Children’s Services Working Group**
Subject: **Service System Management Responsibility for EarlyON**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **David Plourde**

Seconded By: **Michelle Boileau**

WHEREAS in 2018, the Provincial government transferred the service system management and funding of EarlyON Child and Family Centres (formerly Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres) to CMSM/DSSABs; and

WHEREAS an Early Years Provincial Network (EYPN) existed prior to 2018, with representation of provincially funded Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centre providers, with a direct connection to the Ministry of Education; and

WHEREAS this EYPN continues to meet with the Ministry of Education on matters that should be addressed through service system managers; and

WHEREAS it is important for the EYPN and the Province to recognize the CMSM/DSSAB service system management role that is imbedded in the provincial service agreements with CMSM/DSSABs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests that the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, direct EYPN to consult and collaborate directly with CMSM/DSSABs, recognizing the role of the CMSM/DSSAB as the Service System Manager for early years services in the province, and that the Ministry of Education cease to meet with this EYPN accordingly.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



2021 Annual General Meeting
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Resolution # 2021- 10

Originator: **Children’s Services Working Group**
Subject: **Support for National Child Care Plan**
Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Andrew Hallikas**

Seconded By: **Brian Bigger**

WHEREAS the Federal Government announced a commitment to invest up to \$30B into the development of a national early learning and child care strategy over the next five years in its 2021 budget tabled on April 19, 2021, and to provide permanent ongoing funding of \$8.3B annually by 2025-26; and

WHEREAS new federal investments will reduce fees in regulated child care by 50% on average by 2022; and

WHEREAS federal funding will enable an average of \$10 per day child care by 2026 everywhere in Canada outside of Quebec; and

WHEREAS federal funding will support additional spaces for before-and-after school care for families; and

WHEREAS federal funding will create new enhancements for Indigenous early learning and child care programs; and

WHEREAS the Federal budget announcement offers an unprecedented investment to make early learning and child care more affordable and accessible for families across the country; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated how essential child care is for families, communities, and employers, and how precarious the current early learning and child care system in Ontario is without sufficient and stable government funding; and

WHEREAS territories and provinces must enter into bilateral agreements with the Federal government agreeing to targets on areas such as affordability, quality of care, and training of early childhood educators in order to access the new funding as outlined in the federal budget.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA advise the Honourable Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education of its support for a National Child Care Plan and NOSDA will work with the Province in developing a responsive, affordable, and high quality early learning and child care system that recognizes the value and contribution of early years professionals.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair

2021 Annual General Meeting
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Resolution # 2021- 11

Originator: **Income Support & Employment Services Working Group**
Subject: **Ontario's Vision for Social Assistance Transformation**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Richard Malette**

Seconded By: **Debbie Ewald**

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has announced its vision for a renewed social assistance system; and

WHEREAS at the core of this transformation are the province has established the following principles:

- prioritizing the outcomes of employment, financial resilience, independence, and well-being
- supporting positive client and staff experiences
- assigning roles to where they make the most sense and improve efficiency
- improving program integrity by leveraging data and technology
- designing in partnership with municipal delivery partners
- building a system that puts people at the centre, with services that work effectively together to support them
- using data, evidence, and the voice of clients to inform design

WHEREAS the vision makes sense to NOSDA and once realized, will provide for more effective people-centred services to improve client outcomes and NOSDA supports AMO's assertion that these changes must be implemented without an increase in municipal program delivery costs and that the changes do not alter the current provincial-municipal cost-sharing arrangements; and

WHEREAS Provincial–municipal collaboration has resulted in a social assistance framework based on helping people achieve stability in their lives. This means a system where caseworkers focus on the building blocks of greater independence and long-term employability, using their time with clients to understand people's needs; and

WHEREAS the Province, Municipalities and the community at large must all work together to create a system that will achieve the goals of life stabilization and better outcomes for those who need help; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members have been recognized as the Municipal Service System Managers for Human Services within the communities they have jurisdiction over; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are recognized as valued partners and key stakeholders by School Boards, Public Health Units, Hospitals, Non-Profit Housing Providers, Local Health Integration Networks, Community Agencies, and municipalities; and

WHEREAS access to financial assistance is not enough, it takes a lot of support in terms of mental health, addictions services, primary care, parenting, family supports, youth programs, affordable housing, and child care, etc.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA members are cautiously optimistic on the provinces vision as it makes some important moves in the right direction and the provinces willingness to co-design the new system with NOSDA members is encouraging; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA members call on the province to clearly define Life Stabilization as well as the outcome model framework in order to define success. Recognize that Life Stabilization activities can be intense, long term, and non-linear;and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the new funding needs to recognize the work involved and the supports needed for both clients and staff.



Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



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Resolution # 2021- 12

Originator: **Income Support & Employment Services Working Group**
Subject: **Social Services Simplification**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **George Pirie**

Seconded By: **Bruce Killah**

WHEREAS the province of Ontario has announced its vision for a renewed social assistance system; and

WHEREAS the province has introduced Bill 276, the Supporting Recovery and Competitiveness Act, 2021; and

WHEREAS the vision makes sense to NOSDA and once realized, will provide for more effective people-centred services to improve client outcomes and NOSDA supports AMO's assertion that these changes must be implemented without an increase in municipal program delivery costs and that the changes do not alter the current provincial-municipal cost-sharing arrangements; and

WHEREAS the changes proposed in Bill 276 do not deal with the over 800 rules within the Social Services System that require significant staff time; and

WHEREAS the changes proposed in Bill 276 do not deal with the adequacy of allowances.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA calls on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the vision for a renewed social assistance system however vision cannot be accomplished unless the province deals with the simplification of the system and the adequacy of allowances; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Premier directs the Minister of Children, Community & Social Services who is responsible for Social Services System to immediately start working on simplification of the Social Services System as they co-design the Vision for Social Assistance Transformation with CMSM/DSSAB's.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



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Resolution # 2021- 13

Originator: **Income Support & Employment Services Working Group**
Subject: **Employment Services Transformation**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Mark King**

Seconded By: **Dan Roveda**

WHEREAS the province is transforming Ontario's employment services to make them more efficient, more streamlined, and outcomes focused; and

WHEREAS As part of Employment Services Transformation, a new service delivery model will integrate social assistance employment services, as well as other government employment services, into Employment Ontario. This new system will be more responsive to the needs of job seekers, businesses, and local communities; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is transforming the employment services system to reduce fragmentation and duplication between provincial employment systems to improve client service, increase accountability and achieve better outcomes for all job seekers and employers; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development is currently in the process of selecting the 15 Service System Managers to create a locally responsive employment services system that delivers sustained employment outcomes for all individuals and businesses, based on their needs; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has designated 2 geographical regions in the North, being Northeastern Ontario and Northwestern Ontario; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members are concerned that the two Northern regions are too large and vast a geographic area for two Service System Managers to appropriately manage; and

WHEREAS it has also been acknowledged that other municipally delivered services including Housing Services and Children's Services are fundamental to assisting individuals along the continuum of employment; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA call on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the transformation of the employment services system and more specifically that the province engage CMSM/DSSABs as full partners in managing and planning employment services in their communities; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Honorable Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development work with NOSDA members to determine the best approach for Service System Management of Employment Services in the North.



Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



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Resolution # 2021- 14

Subject: **Community Paramedicine Funding**
Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Richard Malette**

Seconded By: **Doug Jelly**

WHEREAS the province provides funding for High Intensity Supports and Community Paramedicine through the Ministry of Health's Ontario Health Teams (formerly the LHINs) to select Paramedic Services; and

WHEREAS the province has recently provided funding for Community Paramedicine for Long Term Care through the Ministry of Long-Term care to only Paramedic Services with existing High Intensity Supports Community Paramedicine programs; and

WHEREAS Community Paramedicine programs contribute greatly to community health and well-being by providing health care assessment and service in individuals homes versus acute care centres.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA) requests that the Minister of Health and the Minister of Long-Term Care provide equitable Community Paramedicine Program funding throughout all of Northern Ontario.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



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Resolution # 2021- 15

Subject: **Paramedic Services Modernization**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **George Pirie**

Seconded By: **Geoff McCausland**

WHEREAS in the fall of 2019, the province as part of Ontario's comprehensive plan to end hallway health care, we will be modernizing both public health and emergency health services to meet the evolving needs of communities across Ontario; and

WHEREAS in the fall of 2019, the Ontario government introduced Jim Pine, as the advisor who will lead the Ministry of Health's engagements with municipal governments and the public health and emergency health services sectors to strengthen and modernize public health and emergency health services; and

WHEREAS the Minister of Health has clearly indicated their intent to proceed with the modernizing emergency health services once the COVID-19 pandemic is over; and

WHEREAS Paramedic Services in Northern Ontario provide coverage for vast geographic areas; and many Paramedic Stations in the North are single vehicle stations staffed with one crew and in many cases operating on a call back system in the evenings; and the next closest ambulance may be more than one hour away; and

WHEREAS Northern municipalities and the Designated Delivery Agent for Paramedic Services already struggle to maintain services and response times across the vast geographic areas; and

WHEREAS Northern municipalities are struggling to maintain appropriate funding to continue services, in both rural and urban areas, to a level and quality of service both expected and experienced in other parts of the province.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern Services Delivery Association (NOSDA) calls upon the Minister of Health to work closely with NOSDA members as it proceeds with the modernizing emergency health services; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that any modernization of Emergency Health Services ensures that the 144 municipalities across Northern Ontario have a say in the provision of services within their catchment area; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that any modernization of Emergency Health Services does not increase the current municipal share of Emergency Health Services.

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Michelle Boileau,
NOSDA Chair



2021 Annual General Meeting

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Resolution # 2021- 16

Subject: **Non-Urgent Patient Transfers**

Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **Norm Mann**

Seconded By: **Patricia Hewitt**

WHEREAS the Province has created a Regionalized Health Care System to maximize service to patients in a central location; and

WHEREAS non-urgent transfer patients generally do not require the use of an ambulance, however, in Northern Ontario ambulances are utilized extensively, as alternate, less costly and more efficient Medical transport services have not been developed by Northern hospitals; and

WHEREAS the use of local ambulance resources for non-urgent transfers places communities at risk for delays in response to emergent calls for service, particularly in one ambulance communities; and

WHEREAS in Southern Ontario, non-urgent patient transfers are provincially funded at 100%, through the use of medical transport services, at a much lower cost than utilizing Paramedic Services and eliminating the risk of delay in response to emergent calls; and

WHEREAS in Northern Ontario the cost of non-urgent transfers is borne of at least 50% cost to the local taxpayers and places the citizens at risk of delays in emergent response; and

WHEREAS Ontario health has committed to reduce the use of Paramedic Service for non-urgent patient transfers through funding for Medical Transport Services, change has been limited with inconsistent application of resources and a failure to meet the needs of the municipally funded Paramedic Services and the citizens of Northern Ontario

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA requests the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care take the immediate necessary steps to fund Medical Transport Services equitably across Northern Ontario; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT steps to reduce hospital dependencies on Paramedic Services for non-urgent patient transports be established immediately; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this Resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health & Long Term Care, Ontario Health - North, AMO, NOMA, FONOM, OAPC, OMA and Northern Ontario Paramedic Service providers.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair



2021 Annual General Meeting
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Resolution # 2021- 17

Subject: **Correctional Facilities Discharge Planning**
Date: June 22, 2021

Moved By: **George Pirie**

Seconded By: **Mark King**

WHEREAS the Ministry of the Solicitor General made difficult decisions during the COVID-19 Pandemic around the release of inmates and individuals from the Correctional System for Health and Safety Reasons; and

WHEREAS during the COVID-19 Pandemic it became apparent that in some cases inmates were being released from Jails and Correctional Facilities into homelessness which put a real strain on the municipal emergency shelters, homelessness systems and community safety and wellbeing plans; and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 Pandemic has highlighted the importance having adequate housing infrastructure and partnership with Consolidated Municipal Service Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards in the development of Discharge Planning Strategies; and

WHEREAS NOSDA members want to work with the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General to ensure the safety of all community members.

WHEREAS this issue is being compounded by recent changes in the Federal Bill C75 *“an Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and other Acts and to make consequential amendments to other Acts”* and the change to bail court provision that no longer require incarceration prior to bail court

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOSDA asks that the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General work with NOSDA members to develop a protocol in Northern Ontario for appropriate and effective Discharge Planning Strategies of individuals from Jails and Correctional Facilities into Northern Communities to ensure their safety and the safety of all community members.

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Michelle Boileau
NOSDA Chair