



MINUTES
of the April 25, 2013
MANITOULIN-SUDBURY DSB BOARD MEETING
held in Espanola's 210 Mead Blvd. DSB Boardroom

Present: Lou Addison, André Byham, Sonja Flynn, Les Gamble, Dennis Golden, Bruce Killah, David Leonard, Derek Stephens, Paul Moffatt, Shawnda Martin-Cross, Mike Lehoux, Edgar Lovelace, Jack McMillan

Regrets : Denis Turcot

Staff: Fern Dominelli, Donna Moroso, Connie Morphet, Melody Ouellette, Steve Broadhurst, Mike MacIsaac.

Media: Alicia McCutcheon, Manitoulin Expositor
Dawn Lalonde, Mid-North Monitor

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Les Gamble, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The chair recognized Archie Bovin, Reeve for the Township of Baldwin who was in attendance at the Board meeting.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Resolution No. 13-41

Moved by: Shawnda Martin-Cross

Seconded by: Paul Moffatt

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda be adopted.

Carried

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4.0 Closed Session

Resolution 13-42

Moved by: Bruce Killah

Seconded by: Lou Addison

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board move into closed session at 10:05 a.m.

Carried

Resolution 13-43

Moved by: Derek Stephens

Seconded by: Dennis Golden

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board adjourn this closed session at 10:20 a.m.

Carried

5.0 Business Arising from Closed Session

During its Closed Session, the Board discussed Property and Human Resources Issues.

6.0 Minutes

6.1 Adoption of Minutes for March 28, 2013

Resolution No. 13-44

Moved by: André Byham

Seconded by: Dennis Golden

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the [Minutes of the March 28, 2013](#) Board meeting be approved.

Carried

6.2 Business Arising from Minutes

There was no business arising from the Minutes.

7.0 Committee Reports

7.1 Finance Committee

[Town of Espanola Letter – Apportionment](#)

[Apportionment Process](#)

Les Gamble, Chair, briefed the board on the outcome of the Finance Committee meeting held on April 24, 2013. Mike Lehoux was elected as Chair of this committee. The committee reviewed the apportionment letter from the Town of Espanola and while the committee sympathizes with the Town of Espanola there is nothing that the DSB can do to assist with the issue without adversely affecting the other municipalities that form part of the DSB Board.

Resolution 13-45

Moved by: Derek Stephens

Seconded by: Shawnda Martin-Cross

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Finance Committee met on April 24, 2013 to review the [Town of Espanola Apportionment Letter](#) as directed by the DSB Board at the March 2013 meeting; and

WHEREAS the Finance Committee does sympathize with the issues raised by the Town of Espanola and recognizes this could happen to any municipality within the DSB jurisdiction, the Finance Committee does not believe there is anything the DSB can do to assist the Town of Espanola without adversely affecting the other municipalities that form part of the DSB Board; and

WHEREAS this issue has occurred because the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) improperly assessed the property in question or failed to defend its assessment at appeal; and

WHEREAS Municipalities are required to pay for the services provided by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) and MPAC is not being held accountable for their decisions and municipalities are being adversely affected not only in current budget year but retroactively based on appeal decisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB calls upon the Honorable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario to hold the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) accountable for its decisions; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing rectify this matter to ensure that the Town of Espanola or any other Municipality is not adversely affected by Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) decisions and appeals; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be shared with the AMO, NOSDA, FONOM, NOMA, local MP's and MPP's.

Carried

Resolution 13-46

Moved by: Shawnda Martin-Cross

Seconded by: Paul Moffatt

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Finance Committee reviewed the existing Finance Committee Terms of Reference and the Finance Committee is recommending changes to the Terms of Reference to the Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the changes to the Finance Committee [Terms of Reference](#) effective May 1, 2013.

Carried

8.0 New Business

8.1 Northern Ontario Service Delivers Association (NOSDA) Annual General Meeting Update

[NOSDA 2013 Resolutions](#)

The NOSDA Annual General Meeting was held April 9 to the 11th in North Bay.

At the AGM the membership approved 7 NOSDA resolutions.

Resolution 2013-01: Child Care

NOSDA acknowledged and applauded the work of the Ministry of Education and the Early Years staff for their commitment to a co-operative and collaborative process with municipal child care system managers.

NOSDA encourages the Ministry of Education to continue to support the CMSM/DSSABs as service system managers in development of an integrated and coordinated approach with School Boards and community partners, recognizing child care as a core business of the education system.

Resolution 2013 - 07: Child Care Funding Formula

Whereas currently approximately 40% of communities facing funding reductions in Ontario are from Northern Ontario.

NOSDA calls upon the Ministry of Education to work together to examine the various components including the 0-12 population weight factor for future calculations to ensure that Northern service system managers are not adversely impacted in their provision of early learning programs.

Resolution 2013 - 02: E.M.S.

NOSDA calls upon the Province of Ontario immediately correct this EMS funding and service level inequity between Northern and Rural Ontario and Southern and Urban Ontario by funding 100% of the cost of non-emergent and non-urgent inter-facility transfers provided by Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/Land Ambulance providers or by providing this service through private sector medical transfer service companies in Northern and Rural Ontario.

Resolution 2013 - 03: ONTARIO WORKS

NOSDA calls on the Premier of Ontario to move forward with the integration of Employment Services and more specifically that the province engage CMSM/DSSAB's as full partners in managing and planning employment services in their communities; and

The Premier takes the first step along this integration path by immediately expanding the number of CMSM/DSSAB's in the North which are designated as Employment Ontario deliverers.

The Premier directs the Minister of Training Colleges and Universities who is responsible for Employment Ontario to make DSSAB's/CMSM the Service System Managers for employment programs where the CMSM/DSSAB is interested which would mean Employment Ontario would only have one contract within each CMSM/DSSAB jurisdiction. This would allow CMSM/DSSAB to rationalize services and ensure that over time a streamlined and more holistic approach to employment services in a community were being funded.

Resolution 2013-04: Social Housing – Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative

NOSDA members very much appreciate the CHPI bridge funding to March 31st, 2014 to assist with the transition to the consolidated housing services model.

NOSDA requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to maintain CHPI funding at 2013 levels in 2014 and beyond to meet pressing community housing needs.

Resolution 2013-05: Social Housing – Deep Core Need Definition

The data does not represent a 'true picture' of the low income population of Northern Ontario in that, First Nations persons are under-represented, small communities are not counted and, statistical accuracy is lost in areas of low population due to the manner in which Statistics Canada aggregate data for the protection of privacy.

NOSDA requests the Minister of Municipal Affairs to revisit the funding formula used to arrive at the Investment in Affordable Housing Program and Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative for Northern Ontario.

Resolution 2013 - 06: Strategic Plan Adoption

The final version of the NOSDA Strategic Plan, as recommended by the CAOs Working Group to the NOSDA Executive, be approved by the NOSDA Executive on behalf of the NOSDA membership.

Resolution 2013 – 07: Child Care Funding Formula

NOSDA call upon the Ministry of Education to work together to examine the various components including the 0-12 population weight factor for future calculations to ensure that Northern service system managers are not adversely impacted in their provision of early learning programs.

Resolution 13-47**Moved by:** André Byham**Seconded by:** Paul Moffatt

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Board has reviewed the resolutions approved by the Northern Ontario Service Delivers Association (NOSDA) at their Annual General Meeting held in North Bay in April 2013;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB agrees in principal with the [resolutions](#) approved at the NOSDA Annual General Meeting and supports NOSDA's approach in addressing these very important issues that impact all DSSAB's in Northern Ontario.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT this resolution be shared with the Premier of Ontario, Minister of Education, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Minister of Community and Social Services, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, AMO, NOSDA, FONOM, NOMA and OMSSA.

Carried**8.2 NE LHIN Patient Transfer Service Pilot****[NOSDA AGM Presentation](#)**

Mike Maclsaac, Chief of EMS, walked through the NE LHIN Patient Transfer Service Pilot presentation given at the NOSDA AGM.

The DSB patient transfer service does, on average, 2.37 patient transfers per day, many which are return transfers. To date there have been 18 one way transfers and 37 two way transfers for a total of 92 trips. This amounts to 216 hours of utilization that would have otherwise been performed by EMS. In other words, there was 216 hours of time where EMS staff were available for medical emergencies.

A review committee has not yet been established by NE LHIN but they are looking at a cross section of northern representatives to be on the committee. Mike Maclsaac has put his name forward to sit on the committee.

8.3 [Healthy Community Fund Policy](#) – Revised

The Healthy Communities Fund aims to prevent, address and reduce homelessness by improving access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing that is linked to flexible support services based on people's needs.

Eligibility for HCF benefits is based on the most recent Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) chart for the appropriate family size published by Statistics Canada.

In February 2013, the policy was changed to ensure that they are in line with the new CHPI guidelines. Since the funding being received through CHPI was significantly less than previous allocations (due to combination of the removal of Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit and the new funding envelope), part of the change included a change to the income on the LICO chart. The change saw the income cut off lower to ensure that the funds were available to more people. This change has made it more difficult for those applicants who are not on social assistance to qualify.

Due to this change staff are recommending that under exceptional circumstances clients may be able to exceed the policy with the approval of the Director of Integrated Social Services.

Resolution No. 13-48

Moved by: Jack McMillan

Seconded by: David Leonard

WHEREAS the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB has reviewed the revised Policy 10.1 Healthy Communities Fund and agrees with the changes recommended by staff.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB approves the revised [10.1 Healthy Communities Fund Policy](#) contained within the Ontario Works manual effective May 1, 2013.

Carried

8.4 **Ministry of Community & Social Services**

[Ontario Works Transition Funding](#)

Following the Provincial/Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review, the province, AMO and the City of Toronto committed to working together to review Ontario Works funding and recommend principles to guide a revision to that funding approach.

At the February 24, 2011 Board meeting, the Board reviewed and approved the [New Ontario Works Funding – Issue Report](#).

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB is one of only 4 CMSM/DSSAB's across the province that had their funding reduced as a result of the new funding formula.

The DSB's Employment Assistance allocation was decreased from \$487,697 to \$347,600 which represents a 29% decrease or \$140,013 decrease in provincial funding.

The cost of administration funding was increased from \$701,787 to \$745,800 which represents a 6% increase or \$44,013 increase in provincial funding.

In addition 100% provincial dollars for OW Incentive Funding has been eliminated resulting in a reduction of \$58,561 in provincial funding.

The net impact of the provincial funding changes was a 12.4% decrease or \$154,645 decrease in provincial funding for the Ontario Works program.

The Province did provide transition funding during the first two-year funding cycle for Ontario Works delivery agents that had a decrease in overall provincial funding.

In the case of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB, the province provided \$191,264 for the transition funding for two fiscal periods, April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 and from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013.

On April 3rd, 2013, Jeff Butler, the Acting Director of the Ontario Works Branch sent a memo advising that the ministry has received approval to extend the provision of transition funding for delivery agents that experienced a decrease in overall provincial funding or had to invest more in order to maintain 2010 funding levels.

For 2013/14, the ministry is providing a portion of the municipal contribution at 100% provincial cost. Transition funding amounts have been capped at 2012/13 levels and have been recalculated for 2013/14 to reflect changes in funding allocations due to updated caseload data. Transition funding for the 2014/15 fiscal year will be phased out at 50% of the 2013/14 amounts for those delivery agents that qualify.

In this memo, the Director was clear that the ministry will not continue further transition funding beyond this two year funding cycle.

In the case of the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB, staff are still trying to understand what this means to the DSB. Staff have contacted the MCSS Program Supervisor for more information and will update the Board once clarification is received.

8.5 Ministry of Education

[Licensed Child Care Questionnaire – 2012 Results](#)

On March 25, 2013, the Ministry of Education (MEDU) released a report from a Child Care Questionnaire which was initiated in July of 2012. The purpose of the report was to provide an evidenced based province-wide overview of the licensed child care sector.

This report was conducted by MEDU, and included contact with all licensed child care operators, to gather information concerning hours of operation, days of operation, child care rates, staff wages, reserve funds, and purchase of service agreements.

The questionnaire also included questions about child care parent fees. The provincial median of daily parent fees is very close in comparison to the DSB rate fees. Although the results are province-wide, for the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB, the release of the questionnaire was reaffirming as it is reflective of the current practice and current policies.

8.6 Ministry of Education

[Ontario Early Years Framework](#)

On January 23, 2013, the Ministry of Community and Youth Services (MCYS) and the Ministry of Education (MEDU) jointly released the new Ontario Early Years Policy Framework. This new framework describes the government's vision towards integrating family support programs in Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYC), Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Family Resource Centres, and Better Beginnings, Better Futures.

With the goal of integration, and to establish common governance, the government also announced that responsibility for the mentioned programs will be transferred from MCYS to MEDU. After the transfer of Child Care Centre funding from MCYS to MEDU occurred in 2012, Family Resource Centre funding and Best Start planning funding were the only remaining funding being received from MCYS. Therefore, for system service managers this will mean that all Children's Services funding will be received from one government ministry.

When OEYC's were first introduced, they were located in Sudbury and in the Nickel Belt areas. The DSB has been asking the Ministry to review this model in hopes of having the OEYC located in the DSB catchment area. With the future transfer of the other noted programs, specifically the OEYC's, as system service managers, the DSB will continue to lobby to receive the OEYC funding under the DSB portfolio.

The timeframe for implementation and integration of the new approach has been identified as September 2014. While the government has not released the details of how the transfer will roll out, the new policy framework positively states that District Social Services Administration Boards act as service system managers to plan and deliver community-based early years programs and services governed and funded by the Ministry of Education.

8.7 [2013 Federal Budget](#) – Full Document

[2013 Budget in Brief](#)

[AMO Breaking News – The Federal Budget](#)

[OMSSA Analysis of Federal Budget](#)

On March 21, 2013, Federal Finance Minister, Jim Flaherty introduced the 2013-2014 budget.

Affordable Housing

The announcement of additional funding for both the Investment in Affordable Housing Initiative (IAH) and the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) for the next five years is welcomed.

Investment in Affordable Housing

The budget proposes a total of \$1.25 billion over five years, \$253m annually, to renew the IAH program.

The IAH requires matched funding from the Ontario government and can be used for such things as new construction, renovation, home ownership assistance, rent supplements, shelter allowances and accommodations for victims of family violence.

The design and delivery of the program will be negotiated with the federal government and the province and it is anticipated that the province will work with Ontario's municipalities and service managers given Ontario's unique arrangement and the significant investment and role municipalities have in the program area.

An interesting requirement within the IAH is that provinces must ensure that funds support the use of apprentices, a move which supports the budget and federal government commitment to training of skilled labour.

Homelessness Partnering Strategy

\$119 million over five years for a total of approximately \$600 million was proposed including that the funding use a “Housing First” approach.

Down from the previous allocation of \$134 million annually, the new commitment does improve the opportunity to plan in ways not previously possible. Moving from an annual renewal cycle, a five year planning window is a move in the right direction.

Concerns still exist with service sustainability and stability over the long term given the program has a finite lifespan. The five year investment is good and welcome news but a long term approach and stable funding is needed.

The Canada Job Grant

The budget signals the federal government’s clear intention to have a say in how funding for skills training is to be used.

Moving from its long held position that program design should rest with provincial and territorial governments, the federal government will be moving to re-profile existing Labour Market Agreements (LMAs) to reflect its preference in how to address skills shortages.

The Canada Job Grant is a tripartite funding approach that relies on agreement between the federal and provincial government and employers to match funding of up to \$5,000.00.

The Provincial Budget is expected May 2, 2013 and more information about the impacts of these announcements should be known at that time.

9.0 Other Business – [Employment Ontario Career Fair Chapleau May 8, 2013](#)

In partnership with École Secondaire Catholique Trillium, the Algoma District School Board, PARO Centre for Women’s Enterprise, Aboriginal Peoples’ Alliance Northern Ontario (APANO) and Kunumanimano Child and Family Services the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB will be holding a Career Exploration Fair at École Secondaire Catholique Trillium May 8th, 2013 . To date 22 employers have confirmed their attendance. The general public, Ontario Works participants, Employment Ontario clients and students from Grade 7 and up will be attending.

10.0 Next Meeting – May 23, 2013

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 13-49

Moved by: André Byham

Seconded by: Lou Addison

BE IT RESOLVED THAT we do now adjourn at 11:54 a.m. until the next regular meeting to be held in the DSB's Espanola Mead Boulevard Board Room on May 23, 2013.

Carried



Chair



CAO (Secretary-Treasurer
of the Corporation)