



THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY  
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD

# DSSAB Legislation and Governance

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## POSITION PAPER

**January 2022**

**Rural Ontario Municipalities Association (ROMA) Conference**

Prepared by:

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board

Prepared for:

Hon. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services

## Brief

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) calls on the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) to proceed with changes to the DSSAB Act and Regulations and finalize the DSSAB Governance and Accountability Guidelines further to the June 2019 Report of the Expert Advisor.

## Summary

The TBDSSAB appreciates the Ministry's history of consulting with DSSABs about possible amendments to the Act and the Interim Governance and Accountability Guidelines. However, final changes have yet to be made based on feedback received from service managers between 2017-2019.

Therefore, TBDSSAB calls on the Minister to consider the Board's recommendations and finalize changes to the DSSAB Act legislation and governance requirements further to the June 2019 report.

## Background

In 2017, the Ministry announced that a review of the DSSAB Act, (1999) would be undertaken. The review was conducted, with the resulting report from the consultant set aside.

In response to a request for input from the province in 2017, TBDSSAB passed a resolution that include a number of suggested changes (Resolution 17-82 and resulted Board Report attached). The recommendations to the Minister contained in

the resolution included the need to update the legislation and DSSAB Governance and Accountability Guidelines, provide greater clarity on the services that DSSABs can deliver and to define whether DSSABs have the ability to exceed legislated or regulated cost sharing formulae.

A further review process was completed by the Ministry in 2019 with a Report of the Expert Advisor to MCCSS completed in June 2019. DSSABs were advised by MCCSS in December 2019 that work would be done in 2020 to “finalize the DSSAB Accountability and Governance guidelines and explore other opportunities to support transparency and accountability of the Boards and ensure they are supported and functioning well.”

Therefore, TBDSSAB calls on the MCCSS to proceed with changes to the DSSAB Act and Regulations and finalize the DSSAB Governance and Accountability Guidelines further to the June 2019 Report of the Expert Advisor.