



Memorandum

Date: March 3, 2023
To: Members of the Board
From: Bill Bradica, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **Resolution to Endorse AMO's Call To End Homelessness**

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) has requested that municipalities and District Social Services Administration Boards endorse AMOs call upon Ontario to end homelessness. In that regard it is recommended that a letter be sent to Premier Ford enclosing a Board Resolution as outlined in this memo.

It is important to acknowledge that there was an increase in the homeless prevention program (HPP) funding by Ontario last year. However, it is clear that further increases are needed in order to eliminate chronic homelessness in the District of Thunder Bay.

For the 2023 year, the Board has approved a budget that includes spending on community housing programs and homelessness prevention of about \$39 million (net of rent revenues and other revenue sources) with subsidies of \$11.5 million from Canada and \$7.8 million from Ontario, leaving about 50%, or, \$19.7 million funded by the municipal and TWOMO levy. The contribution through the levy is about \$2 million higher than the 2022 year.

The following Resolution will be presented at the March 16, 2023 Board meeting for consideration:

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is taking a devastating toll on families and communities, undermining a healthy and prosperous Ontario;

WHEREAS the homelessness crisis is the result of the underinvestment and poor policy choices of successive provincial governments;

WHEREAS homelessness requires a range of housing, social service and health solutions from government;



**THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD**

WHEREAS homelessness is felt most at the level of local government and the residents that they serve;

WHEREAS municipalities and District Social Services Administration Boards are doing their part, but do not have the resources, capacity or tools to address this complex challenge; and,

WHEREAS leadership and urgent action is needed from the provincial government on an emergency basis to develop, resource, and implement a comprehensive plan to prevent, reduce and ultimately end homelessness in Ontario.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board calls on the Provincial Government to urgently:

- a. Acknowledge that homelessness in Ontario is a social, economic, and health crisis;
- b. Commit to ending homelessness in Ontario;
- c. Work with AMO and a broad range of community, health, Indigenous and economic partners to develop, resource, and implement an action plan to achieve this goal.

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; the Minister of Health; the Minister of Indigenous Affairs; the Solicitor General; the Attorney General; local MPPs; Thunder Bay District municipalities; the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association; the Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres; Anishnabek Nation; Nishnawbe Aski Nation; Grand Council Treaty #3; Metis Nation of Ontario; and to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

Sincerely,

William(Bill) Bradica
Chief Administrative Officer

WDB/gf

Copy to: Ken Ranta, Director, Integrated Social Services
Crystal Simeoni, Manager, Housing Programs
Georgina Daniels, FCPA, FCA, Director, Corporate Services