



Memorandum

Date: February 24, 2026
To: Members of the Board
From: Ken Ranta, Chief Executive Officer
Subject: **Budget Presentations to Municipal Councils**

At the February 19, 2026 meeting of the Board, Board Member Johnsen asked to add an item of new business to the meeting agenda. The topic to be discussed was TBDSSAB annual budget presentation requests by municipal councils. This topic was subsequently added to the March 19, 2026 Board meeting agenda.

Over the past several years, Administration has received invitations from the City of Thunder Bay to attend their Committee of the Whole Budget Session, to present TBDSSAB's approved budget and respond to questions. These invitations have been declined, however, copies of the proposed and approved budget reports have been provided. Beyond the City of Thunder Bay, no other council has requested TBDSSAB attend their meetings to respond to budget questions.

The rationale for not attending and responding to questions regarding TBDSSAB's budget is found in the Governance and Procedural By-law, section 2 (2)v, where it states "all Members should "lead" discussion on the business issues of the Corporation during the meetings of the Board and not outside of Board meetings or in other forums (including social media)". As such, once a decision has been made by the Board at a Board meeting, the rationale for that decision may not be discussed outside of formal Board meetings. Board members would simply state that the Board's decision is as presented.

TBDSSAB's Board meetings are open to the public, and any member of the community may attend and hear the discussion of matters before the Board, except those discussed in Closed Session. The presentation of the annual proposed budget package and the final annual budget package are presented in Regular (open) session. Further, these budget packages are posted on the TBDSSAB website for anyone to review.



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

At the November 20, 2025 Board meeting, Board Member Etreni presented a memo and draft policy regarding presentations by TBDSSAB to Municipal Councils. The policy encompassed requests for information of a general nature, including program scope, access and delivery systems. The policy stated that “information of a confidential nature or relating to Board decision-making processes would not be shared”. This policy was approved by the Board at that meeting.

In order to remove concerns regarding TBDSSAB’s declining of invitations to present and respond to questions related to its annual budget, the following resolution is presented for consideration:

THAT with respect to all requests and invitations to present and respond to questions regarding TBDSSAB’s annual approved budget, Administration will decline as this contravene’ s the Board’s Governance and Procedural By-law;

AND THAT the Board’s proposed and final budget reports will continue to be posted on the TBDSSAB website for any and all to see.

Sincerely,

Ken Ranta
Chief Executive Officer

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