



Social Services | Services Sociaux
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin
Sault Ste. Marie District

District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services
Administration Board

Conseil d'Administration des Services du District Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 4:30 PM
540 Albert Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

Present: **Stephanie Hopkin** **Marchy Bruni**
Angela Caputo **via Zoom**
via Zoom **Ron Zegordo**
Lisa Vezeau- Allen **Enzo Palumbo**
 Sonny Spina

Mike Nadeau
David Petersson
Miranda Scott
Joanne Pearson
Antonio Borrelli
Pam Patteri
Joanne Pearson
Tanya Ritter

1. CALL TO ORDER at 4:31

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge, with respect, that we are in Robinson-Huron Treaty territory, that the land on which we are gathered is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe and known as Bawating. Bawating is the home of Garden River First Nation, Batchewana First Nation, the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #24-024

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 3.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Agenda for March 21, 2024 District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting be approved as presented.”

Carried

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Resolution #24-025

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 5.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting dated February 15, 2024 be adopted as recorded.

Carried

6. MANAGERS REPORTS

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS

Resolution #24-026

Moved By: E. Palumbo

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED** the district of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) allocate remaining 2023/24 Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) funding of \$371,000 in one time investments as follows:

1. \$250,000 towards staffing the Housing and Homelessness System,

2. \$121,000 City of SSM for the Downtown Ambassador Program”

Carried

Resolution #24-027

Moved By: E. Palumbo

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.2 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan for the period of April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025 as outlined in the report”

Carried

Resolution #24-028

Moved By: E. Palumbo

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.3 **“WHEREAS** Reaching Home: Canada’s Homelessness Strategy is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness across Canada. This program provides funding to urban, rural, and remote communities to help them address their local homelessness needs;

AND WHEREAS Reaching Home supports the goals of the National Housing Strategy, by supporting the most vulnerable Canadians in maintaining safe, stable, and affordable housing and to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027 to 2028;

AND WHEREAS Homelessness has an impact on every community in Canada. It affects individuals, families, women fleeing violence, youth, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities. In 2016, an estimated 129,000 people experienced homelessness at an emergency shelter in Canada.

AND WHEREAS only five of the 11 NOSDA members are funded to deliver the Reaching Home Program and they have been informed that their reaching home funding will be cut 57% in fiscal 2026-27;

AND WHEREAS this 57% reduction will mean that, the 5 NOSDA members who deliver Reaching Home will lose \$2.6 million annually by fiscal 2026-27.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT The District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) support NOSDA’s call on the government of Canada to meet its obligations as announced in 2016, and reaffirmed in 2022, by immediately reversing the decision to reduce the Reaching Home Funding by 57%;

AND FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT DSSMSSAB support NOSDA’s call on the Federal Government to increase the annualized funding allocated for Reaching Home and provide Reaching Home Funding for all eleven NOSDA members;

AND FURTHERMORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT DSSMSSAB support NOSDA’s call on the Federal Government to maintain its commitment to reduce chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by fiscal year 2027-28 and fund each northern Service Manager equal to their provincial Homelessness Prevention Program allocation; and

AND FINALLY BE IT RESOLVED THAT the DSSMSSAB support NOSDA’s call on the Federal Government to work in partnership with the Province of Ontario to meet the provinces’ goal of creating 1.5 million new homes by 2030.”

Carried

EARLY YEARS

Resolution #24-029

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.4 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the Early Years Emergency Issues report as information.”

Carried

Resolution #24-030

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: E. Palumbo

- 6.5 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board reallocate \$218,500 reallocate administrative funding from the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) and \$125,000 from 137 East Street to offset the Early Years funding reduction implemented by the Ministry of Education”.

Carried

COMMUNITY AND CLIENT SUPPORT

Resolution #24-031

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.6 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the 2024 Ontario Works Service Plan Addendum.”

Carried

PARAMEDIC SERVICES

Resolution #24-032

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 6.7 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept the offload delay report as information.”

Resolution #24-033

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: E. Palumbo

- 6.8 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accept funding from the Ministry of LTC to deliver community paramedic services t in 2024/25 and 2025/26”

Carried

Resolution #24-034

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: E. Palumbo

- 6.9 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) enter into a data sharing agreement with the Ministry of Health for connectivity to the Ontario Laboratories Information System.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the DSSMSSAB also enter into a data sharing agreement with Ontario Health’s Home and Community Care Support Service (HCCSS) to gain access to the Health Partner Gateway”.

Carried

Resolution #24-035

Moved By: E. Palumbo

Seconded By: L. Vezeau-Allen

- 6.10 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board now enter into closed session for labour relations purposes.”

Carried

Resolution #24-036

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.11 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board now enter into open session.”

Carried

7. CORRESPONDENCE

8. NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #24-037

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 8.1 **"BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) appoint Enzo Palumbo to the Finance Committee effective immediately"

Carried

9. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #24-038

Moved By: E. Palumbo

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 9.1 **"BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn."

Carried

Adjourned at 6:10pm