



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSAB MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 4:00PM
548 Albert St. E., Sault Ste. Marie

1. CALL TO ORDER

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, and the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #25-032

Moved By: M. Mageran
Seconded By: R. Zagordo

- 3.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the **Agenda for March 20, 2025**, District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting be approved as presented.”

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Resolution #25-033

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 20, 2025** be adopted as recorded”.

PRESENTATION

Human Resource Strategy Update-Kim Mitchell Director of Human Resources

6. **MANAGER'S REPORTS**

PARAMEDIC SERVICES

Resolution #25-034

Moved By: L Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: M. Mageran

- 6.1 **"BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept the Paramedic Services Monthly Offload Delay Report as information."

Resolution #25-035

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: A. Caputo

- 6.2 **"BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the purchase of a Community Paramedic Clinic and Street Outreach Vehicle for a total cost of \$119,235.25, contingent upon final approval from the Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC)."

OPERATIONS

Resolution #25-031

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: M. Bruni

CARRIED BY EVOTE February 27. 2025

- 6.3 **"BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board approve the 2024/2025 Encampment Response Initiative, for the period of January 1, 2025 to March 31, 2025, as identified below:
1. CMHA in the amount of \$168,000-Expand shelter bed capacity from 22 to 27 (including use of additional security)
 2. Pauline's Place in the amount of \$47,535- Expand shelter bed capacity from 30 to 33
 3. SOYA in the amount of \$20,000- Conduct outreach and provide services and supplies to people not using shelter
 4. SSMHC in the amount of \$11,215- Conduct outreach and provide services and supplies to the homeless population
 5. \$10,250 – utilized by management to ensure any dismantled or existing encampment spaces are restored."

Resolution #25-036

Moved By: M. Mageran

Seconded By: M. Bruni

- 6.4 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accepts this Employment Service Transformation report as information.”

Resolution #25-037

Moved By: R. Zagordo

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 6.5 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board enter into a contract with Mamaweswen, The North Shore Tribal Council, for a term of up to one year, with an annual amount of \$550,000 for 2025/2026 homeless prevention services.”

Resolution #25-038

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: L. Vezeau-Allen

- 6.6 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the reallocation of \$15,714 from the John Howard Society to Reaching Home Administration for fiscal year 2024-25, as outlined in this report.”

Resolution #25-039

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: S. Spina

- 6.7 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the budget outlined in this report for the Homemakers and Nursing Services Program for the period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.”

Resolution #25-040

Moved By: M. Mageran

Seconded By: R. Zagordo

6.8 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board reallocate the remaining 2024/25 Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) operational funding as follows:

1. \$151,465.29 to CMHA for additional expenses within the emergency shelter system.
2. \$44,000 to CMHA for required operational items in the Supportive Housing Units. \$20,000 to The John Howard Society for required operational items in the Supportive Housing Units

Resolution #25-041

Moved By: L. Vezeau-Allen

Seconded By: M. Bruni

7.1 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) now enter a closed session.”

Resolution #25-042

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: A. Caputo

7.2 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) now return to open session.”

8. CORRESPONDENCE

2025 NOSDA Membership and Executive
Encampment Response Initiative Letter
DBCM Customer Letter

9. NEW BUSINESS

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #25-043

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: M. Bruni

10.1 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn.”



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSAB MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 20, 2025 at 4PM

1. CALL TO ORDER: 4:34pm

Present:

Stephanie Hopkin	Antonio Borrelli
Angela Caputo	Pam Patteri
Sonny Spina	Tanya Ritter
Melanie Mageran	Joanne Pearson
Ron Zagordo	Crystal Wells
Marchy Bruni via Zoom	
Mike Nadeau	
Louie Bruni	
Kim Mitchell	

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, and the Historic Sault Ste. Marie Metis Council

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #25-017

Moved By: A. Caputo
Seconded By: S. Spina
CARRIED

- 3.1 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the **Agenda for February 20, 2025**, District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board meeting be approved as presented.”

4. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Resolution #25-018

Moved By: R. Zagordo

Seconded By: M. Bruni

CARRIED

5.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Minutes from the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board Meeting dated **January 16 & January 30, 2025** be adopted as recorded”.

6. MANAGER’S REPORTS **PARAMEDIC SERVICES**

Resolution #25-019

Moved By: M. Mageran

Seconded By: M. Bruni

CARRIED

6.1 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept the Paramedic Services Monthly Offload Delay Report as information.”

Resolution #25-020

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: A. Caputo

CARRIED

6.2 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept this report and approve the adjustments to the fleet replacement schedule for Paramedic Services’ ambulances and emergency response vehicles, with the understanding that timelines may be modified as necessary to accommodate changes in lead times while maintaining a 7-year replacement cycle.”

Resolution #25-021

Moved By: M. Mageran

Seconded By: R. Zagordo

CARRIED

- 6.3 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approves the continued financial support of Sault Area Hospital’s (SAH) ‘Transportation of Medically Stable Patients’ initiative at an annual cost of \$100,000.”

OPERATIONS

Resolution #25-022

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: M Bruni

CARRIED

- 6.4 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept the Early Years Cost-Based Funding Model report for information.”

Resolution #25-023

Moved By: R. Zagordo

Seconded By: S. Spina

CARRIED

- 6.5 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept the Homelessness Report – Municipalities Under Pressure as information.”

Resolution #25-024

Moved By: R. Zagordo

Seconded By: S. Spina

CARRIED

- 6.6 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the DSSMSSAB reallocate 2024/25 remaining operational funding as follows:

1. \$100,000 towards security to support both emergency shelters with staffing of the overflow warming stations.
2. \$160,000 towards the Housing Stability Bank.

Resolution #25-025

Moved By: M. Bruni

Seconded By: A. Caputo

CARRIED

- 6.7 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the updated Homelessness Prevention Program Investment Plan for the period of April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026, as outlined in the report.”

Resolution #25-026

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: R. Zagordo

CARRIED

- 6.8 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the increase to the maximum market rent funding for the Portable Housing Benefit (PHB) from \$950 to \$1050 per month for a one bedroom unit, and from \$1050 to \$1150 per month for a two bedroom unit in order to fund clients to appropriate market rent levels.’

Resolution #25-027

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: R. Zagordo

CARRIED

- 6.9 “**BE IT RESOLVED** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the increase to the Reaching Home budget for fiscal 2024-25 as presented in this report.”

Resolution #25-028

Moved By: R. Zagordo

Seconded By: M. Bruni

CARRIED

- 7.0 “**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) now enter a closed session.”

Resolution #25-029

Moved By: S. Spina

Seconded By: M. Mageran

CARRIED

- 7.1 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSAB) now return to open session.”

8. NEW BUSINESS

9. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #25-030

Moved By: A. Caputo

Seconded By: M. Bruni

CARRIED

- 9.1 **“BE IT RESOLVED THAT** we do now adjourn." 5:34pm



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Kate Kirkham

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Monthly Offload Delay Report - February Update

RECOMMENDATION

Therefore, be it resolved that the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) accept the Paramedic Services Monthly Offload Delay Report as information.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The availability of ambulance services is critically important to meet the emergency needs of a community. A significant factor affecting ambulance availability is offload delays. An offload delay is defined as the time spent waiting to transfer patient care from paramedics to Emergency Department (ED) staff. Specifically, offload delays are calculated as the time from the ambulance's arrival at the ED until Transfer of Care (TOC) is documented and acknowledged, minus the standard thirty (30) minutes required for ambulances to return to service.

Ambulance offload delays (AOD) are a well-documented challenge throughout Ontario. In the District of Sault Ste. Marie, the combination of ED crowding and high demand for ambulance services significantly contributes to these delays. Staffing pressures in health services have exacerbated this issue, resulting in resource inefficiencies that impact our emergency response times and overall community safety.

To address ambulance offload delays, several mitigating strategies are currently in place, and we are actively collaborating with SAH, the Ministry of Health (MOH), and Ontario Health (OH) to identify and implement effective solutions.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

District of Sault Ste. Marie Paramedic Services

	February 2024	February 2025
--	---------------	---------------

DATE: March 20, 2025

# of Patients to SAH	874 patients	970 patients
Max # of minutes on offload delay	321 minutes 5 hours, 21 minutes	109 minutes 1 hour, 49 minutes
Total pts over 30 minutes	322	329
Total offload hours for period	685 hours	213 hours
Average Offload Time per Day	22.10 hrs./day	7.6 hrs./ day

In February 2025, the number of patients transported to Sault Area Hospital increased, rising from 874 in February 2024 to 970. Despite this increase in volume, offload efficiency improved. The maximum offload delay was reduced from 321 minutes (5 hours and 21 minutes) in 2024 to 109 minutes (1 hour and 49 minutes) in 2025. The number of patients experiencing offload delays exceeding 30 minutes remained relatively stable, with a slight increase from 322 to 329. However, total offload hours saw a substantial reduction, decreasing from 685 hours in 2024 to 213 hours in 2025. Similarly, the average daily offload time dropped from 22.1 hours per day to 7.6 hours per day. These improvements indicate continued improvements in efficiency, ensuring that paramedics spend less time waiting at the hospital and more time available for emergency response.

12-Month Comparison

	# of Patients to SAH	Max # of Minutes on Offload Delay	Total Patients over 30 minutes	Total Offload Hours for the Month	Average Offload Time per Day
March, 2024	736 patients	343 minutes	123	295 hours	9.5 hrs/ day
April, 2024	804 patients	276 minutes	192	366 hours	12.2 hrs/ day
May, 2024	1044 patients	340 minutes	398	341 hours	11 hrs/day
June, 2024	959 patients	263 minutes	248	228 hours	7.6 hrs/day
July, 2024	1060 patients	228 minutes	259	239 hours	7.8 hrs/day
August, 2024	1039 patients	208 minutes	249	246 hours	7.94 hrs/day
September, 2024	945 patients	204 minutes	205	191 hours	6.37 hrs/day
October, 2024	895 patients	297 minutes	227	213 hours	6.87 hrs/day
November, 2024	987 patients	227 minutes	228	234 hours	7.8 hrs/day
December, 2024	1160 patients	241 minutes	316	257 hours	8.3 hrs/ day
January, 2025	987 patients	258 minutes	112	89 hours	2.9 hrs/ day
February, 2025	970 patients	109 minutes	329	213 hours	7.6 hrs/ day

This data continues to demonstrate a reduction in ambulance offload delays at SAH over the last 12 months. While the number of patients transported each month remains relatively consistent, the total offload hours and average daily offload time show a steady decline throughout the year. These improvements suggest enhanced hospital efficiencies and process optimizations.

Page 3

DATE: March 20, 2025

We continue to work closely with SAH as we engage a consultant to provide an in-depth analysis of the Emergency Department and paramedic practices, patient flow, and systemic challenges within the broader healthcare system. Through this initiative, we aim to identify key areas for improvement that will help streamline processes, enhance efficiency, and ultimately reduce offload delays, benefiting the Emergency Department, EMS operations, and patient care.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Several initiatives are underway to address the rate of offload delays while maintaining high-quality, person-centered care. In alignment with the pillars of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships, DSSMSSAB remains committed to working collaboratively with community partners to navigate system-wide healthcare challenges. This strategic engagement is designed to enhance community well-being and uphold a standard of service excellence.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The financial impact of offload delays is challenging to pinpoint within the paramedic operating budget. However, delayed patient offloading incurs substantial costs such as forced overtime, missed meal breaks, and the need to up-staff additional paramedic units to meet community emergency response demands. With decreasing offload delays, we expect these associated costs to lessen, allowing for more efficient and cost-effective management of paramedic operations.

CONCLUSION

Managing ambulance-to-hospital offload processes remains one of our greatest challenges in delivering timely and appropriate emergency care to the community. We are working in close partnership with the Sault Area Hospital, the Ministry of Health, and Ontario Health to identify and implement the most effective solutions. We will continue to provide monthly updates on our offload statistics to maintain transparency and track progress.

Respectfully submitted,



Kate Kirkham
Chief Paramedic Services



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Kate Kirkham

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Community Paramedic Clinic and Outreach Vehicle

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the purchase of a Community Paramedic Clinic and Street Outreach Vehicle for a total cost of \$119,235.25, following the approval of the budget amendment by the Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

DSSMSSAB's Community Paramedic program is an extension of the paramedic division, dedicated to proactive healthcare, chronic disease management, community education, and reducing emergency department and hospital utilization. This program plays an important role in supporting vulnerable populations, including seniors, individuals with chronic conditions, and those facing barriers to accessing traditional healthcare. A key component of this program is the delivery of medical and wellness clinics in strategically selected buildings across the community. These clinics provide regular health assessments, chronic disease monitoring, vaccinations, and referrals to appropriate care pathways. They also bring together residents, helping to reduce social isolation among older adults. By bringing healthcare directly to residents in high-needs locations, we enhance accessibility and improve overall health outcomes.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

Through ongoing community assessments, we feel there would be value in expanding this service beyond our current locations to reach a broader population segment. To achieve this, we would like to offer a mobile solution, a portable and adaptable vehicle, allowing us to deploy Community Paramedic services where they are needed most. This will let us bring healthcare services directly to underserved neighbourhoods and community areas, ensuring more residents can access preventative care.

A dedicated mobile clinic van would enhance our ability to deliver Community Paramedic services efficiently and effectively. Currently, we rely on a trailer to transport our clinic equipment between locations, which presents logistical challenges, including setup time and parking constraints. Additionally, each paramedic operating the trailer must complete a \$450.00 training course, adding a financial and logistical burden to the program.

Additionally, transitioning to a van would enable us to have a functional mobile clinic, providing care in a broader range of environments. With an appropriately outfitted vehicle, we could offer a more flexible and responsive service, reaching individuals who may not have access to our current wellness clinics due to mobility issues, transportation barriers, or geographical limitations.

A mobile unit would also allow us to expand into street outreach, bringing healthcare services directly to people who face barriers to accessing traditional healthcare. By setting up in high-need areas or by following up through 911 referrals, community paramedics could offer preventative care, wound care, and connections to community resources. This approach would strengthen our ability to support vulnerable populations while reducing reliance on emergency services.



STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

This purchase aligns with DSSMSSAB's priority for service delivery by enhancing the accessibility, efficiency, and responsiveness of Community Paramedic services.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Acquiring a custom-built mobile clinic van will cost:

Total Expense \$119,235.25 (inclusive of non-recoverable HST)

This purchase is contingent upon approvals from both the DSSMSSAB and the Ministry of Long-Term Care (MLTC). Funding for this purchase will exclusively come from funds within the 2024-2025 Community Paramedicine in Long-term Care funding envelope, which is entirely provincially funded. These funds are primarily available due to cost savings from an unfilled administrative position.

A budget amendment has been approved by the MLTC to reallocate funds for this purchase, ensuring compliance with funding guidelines.

CONCLUSION.

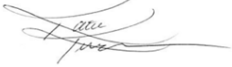
The acquisition of a Community Paramedic Clinic and Street Outreach Vehicle aligns with DSSMSSAB's commitment to enhancing healthcare accessibility and supporting vulnerable populations. By transitioning to a dedicated mobile unit, we can improve service delivery, reduce logistical challenges, and expand our outreach efforts. The

RE: Community Paramedic Clinic and Outreach Vehicle

Page 3

proposed purchase is fully covered through existing funds within the provincially funded Community Paramedicine in Long-Term Care budget. With this investment, we will strengthen our ability to provide proactive, community-based healthcare while reducing emergency service dependency.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kate Kirkham', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kate Kirkham
Chief of Paramedic Services



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Louie Bruni

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Employment Service Transformation (EST)

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board accepts this report as information.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2019, the Province of Ontario informed the DSSMSSAB of plans to begin the Employment Services Transformation (EST). This transformation would see employment services currently offered by the DSSMSSAB transitioned to Employment Ontario. In 2023, Employment Ontario issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Phase 3, which included the Toronto and Northern catchment areas. The RFP was awarded to Boreal, which was selected as the service system manager for the North.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

DSSMSSAB began implementing EST on March 3, 2025. The local Employment Ontario (EO) providers for the Sault Ste. Marie area include the Sault Ste. Marie Community Career Center, Employment Solutions, Yes You Can, March of Dimes, and the Canadian Hearing Society. These organizations will now deliver employment services to Ontario Works and ODSP participants in our community.

As part of the new EST process, Ontario Works case managers will complete an assessment and action plan with each client. Clients determined to be employment-ready or already employed will be directly referred to an Employment Ontario office through the SAMS system.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

EST aligns with the pillar of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

As the DSSMSSAB was aware of these changes, financial impacts were mitigated through a plan to absorb the funding reduction via attrition and reassignment in 2024.

CONCLUSION.

The implementation of the Employment Services Transformation marks a significant change in how employment services are delivered in our community. Moving forward, Ontario Works will continue to maintain a strong collaboration with Employment Ontario partners to ensure a seamless transition for clients accessing employment-related services.

Our Internal planning and service delivery will remain focused on helping clients identify their needs and achieve their goals. Through ongoing partnerships with multi-sector service providers, The DSSMSSAB will continue to enhance and streamline the employment support system, ensuring its effectiveness and accessibility to those we serve.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louie Bruni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "B".

Louie Bruni
Chief Operating Officer



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Louie Bruni

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Mamaweswen, The North Shore Tribal Council – Contract

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board enter into a contract with Mamaweswen, The North Shore Tribal Council, for a term of up to one year, with an annual amount of \$550,000 for 2025/2026 homeless prevention services.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2024, the DSSMSSAB and Mamaweswen formed a partnership to offer services at the Community Resource Centre, Bridge Units, and Community Hub Locations for Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. The decision to form this partnership stemmed from data collection through various means which identified a concerning statistic demonstrating that Indigenous community members made up a significant portion of those experiencing homelessness in our community. To better serve Indigenous community members experiencing homelessness in Sault Ste. Marie, the DSSMSSAB entered into a service contract with Mamaweswen.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

The services currently offered by Mamaweswen include the following objectives:

- To establish pathways for urban Indigenous populations experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in Sault Ste Marie and the surrounding area to access culturally appropriate addiction and mental health services that foster a connection to their Indigenous identity.
- To educate and inform existing homelessness prevention and support teams servicing the Urban Indigenous populations about available services, Anishinaabe teachings, history, and culture, encouraging culturally safe services.
- To reduce the experience of homelessness for urban Indigenous populations in the service area

- To build pathways home for community members of the 7 North Shore Anishinaabe communities, rebuilding and restoring family relationships and connections

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

The Homelessness Prevention Program aligns with the pillar of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed cost of this contract is in line with what was recommended to the Board in the HPP Investment Plan presented in February 2025. The cost of the services provided by Mamaweswen is \$550,000 and is paid by HPP. There is no impact on the municipal levy as HPP is 100% funded by the province.

CONCLUSION.

While Staff previously recommended entering into month- to-month contracts with service providers until the completion of the Housing and Homelessness Plan being developed by OrgCode, the culturally based Indigenous services provided by Mamaweswen are essential to the success of our homelessness prevention efforts. These services are a critical component to addressing the unique needs of Indigenous individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in our community. We anticipate that these vital services will continue, unaffected by the upcoming recommendations from the Housing and Homelessness Plan, ensuring that support for Indigenous community members remains a priority.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louie Bruni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Louie" and last name "Bruni" clearly distinguishable.

Louie Bruni
Chief Operating Officer



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Louie Bruni

DATE: March 20,2025

RE: Reaching Home Adjustment

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the reallocation of \$15,714 from the John Howard Society to Reaching Home Administration for fiscal year 2024-25, as outlined in this report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The DSSMSSAB has been the Community Entity and local contract manager for Reaching Home since its inception. Reaching Home - Canada's Homelessness Strategy is a community-based program aimed at *preventing and reducing homelessness across Canada*. Reaching Home supports the goals of the [National Housing Strategy](#), in particular, supporting the most vulnerable Canadians in maintaining safe, stable, and affordable housing and to reducing *chronic homelessness nationally by 50% by the fiscal year 2027 to 2028*.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

The Board approved the Reaching Home budget in February of 2024 as outlined below.

Funded Position	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	4 YR TOTALS
Social Services - Housing and Homelessness Coordinator	\$95,542.00	\$109,000.00	\$111,997.50	\$114,237.45	\$116,522.20	\$451,757.15
Training	\$10,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00			\$10,000.00

John Howard Society - Community Shelter Diversion Worker provides prevention services in the community to tenants/landlords to divert individuals from entering the shelter system by working to maintain tenancies and/or to secure alternate housing	\$70,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$76,500.00			\$151,500.00
CMHA - Intensive Housing Based Case Manager provides case management services, for approximately one year, to those individuals housed under our Urgent Homeless category	\$70,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$76,500.00			\$151,500.00
Funded Position	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	4 YR TOTALS
Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services - Indigenous Intensive Housing Based Case Manager provides case management services for indigenous clients for approximately one year, to those individuals housed under our Urgent Homeless category	\$57,390.00	\$75,000.00	\$76,500.00			\$151,500.00
CMHA - Mental Health & Addiction Case Management provides supports to those experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness	\$210,000.00	\$187,500.00	\$191,250.00	\$195,075.00	\$159,181.20	\$733,006.20

John Howard Society – Shelter Diversion Worker provides prevention services to prevent individuals from entering the shelter system as well as working with clients in shelter to find and secure housing in the community.	\$81,000.00	\$82,620.00	\$84,272.40			\$166,892.40
John Howard Society - Intensive Housing Based Case Manager provides case management services, for approximately one year, to those individuals housed under our Urgent Homeless category	\$83,000.00	\$84,660.00	\$86,353.20			\$171,013.20
Incremental Funding Additional funding for the development and implementation of Coordinated access and the by-Name List	\$56,680.00					
Funded Position	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	4 YR TOTALS
Administration	\$46,024.00	\$47,212.00	\$32,618.90	\$2,172.55	\$35,781.60	\$117,785.05
Winter top- up	\$201,618					
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$981,254	\$740,992.00	\$740,992.00	\$311,485.00	\$311,485.00	\$2,104,954.00

In February 2025, the Board approved revisions to the Reaching Home budget based on funding changes for the fiscal year 2024/2025. There was an additional \$144,000 in 2024/2025 that was allocated to training, eviction prevention and administration.

Through a review of the budget for fiscal year 2024/2025, it was determined that John Howard did not require its full allocation in fiscal year 2024/2025 to fund the Community Shelter Diversion Worker due to other funding that they were able to utilize for a portion of the salary. Staff is recommending that the \$15,714 difference be reallocated to administration in the event

recommendations from the CAB and/or the Housing and Homelessness Plan require additional program funding.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

The Reaching Home Funding aligns with the pillar of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications since Reaching Home is 100% federally funded

CONCLUSION.

The \$15,714 difference in the funding line will be reallocated to administration to provide flexibility, ensuring that the funds can be redeployed if necessary to support any recommendations from the CAB or the ongoing Housing and Homelessness Plan that is currently underway with OrgCode.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louie Bruni". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "L" and a cursive "Bruni".

Louie Bruni
Chief Operating Officer



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Louie Bruni

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: Homemakers and Nursing Services Program

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board (DSSMSSAB) approve the budget outlined in this report for the Homemakers and Nursing Services Program for the period of April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Homemaking and Nursing Services Act (HNSA) is a provincial program that provides Homemaking Services to eligible community members. It is funded using an 80/20 cost share formula (provincial/municipal) and is intended to assist qualified community members receive the supports needed to remain in their homes. Thus, the total funding allocation for HNSA is \$250,000 (\$200,000 provincial and \$50,000 municipal). To be eligible for HNSA services one must meet financial eligibility determination AND have current health limitations that warrant the services.

Services include but are not limited to:

1. Meal preparation
2. Light house keeping
3. Laundry
4. Snow removal

Under the current Act, the "Welfare Administrator" is responsible to administer the program including program eligibility, service levels, claim submissions, etc. The DSSMSSAB provides no funding and the program is only available within City limits, as the 20% must be municipally funded. There is no administration allocation for the delivery/administering this program.

In September of 2023, the Board was advised that through conversations with CLA, an alternative service delivery approach was identified and therefore funding was reduced to \$35,000 through the HNSA. The Board was further advised that March of Dimes

DATE: March 20, 2025

Canada would cease adding new clients to their program in fiscal 24/25 in an effort to reallocate the finite resources to homelessness services and snow removal.

March of Dimes was able to transfer clients, who were eligible, to Ontario Health at Home resulting in a decrease in clients being supported through the program. As further funds become available through the Homemakers and Nursing Services Program, the DSSMSSAB will redirect these funds to the homelessness sector and 2025/26 snow removal. The last two years, funds have been redirected to the John Howard Society to deliver the supportive housing program at 101 Chapple Street.

The Homemakers Program requires individuals to meet income eligibility and health eligibility to access funding. To further support community members struggling with snow removal, Social Services moved to income testing without a medical requirement to be eligible. Medical factors may be given priority but are not required. This not only allows more individuals to access support but also limits the need for seniors to attend medical appointments to receive health documentation to qualify for financial assistance to complete snow removal at their home.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

Below is the proposed Homemakers budget for fiscal 2025/2026.

Agency	Funding Amount Fiscal 25/26
March of Dimes	\$30,000
John Howard Society of SSM & District	\$170,000
Community Living Algoma	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$250,000

*Note: this budget does not include \$50,000 allocated to snow removal as funded directly through the DSSMSSAB

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

The Homemakers and Nursing Services program aligns with the pillar of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Homemakers and Nursing Services program's total funding envelope remains unchanged.

CONCLUSION

Services provided under the HNSA are very important to our community; however, they are not core municipal services. The cost sharing formula makes it attractive to continue to provide services under the HNSA, but due competing fiscal pressures, we must

RE: Homemakers and Nursing Services Program

Page 3

DATE: March 20, 2025

allocate finite resources in a manner that is prudent and fair. Our local priorities continue to be homelessness services and snow removal through the HNSA lens.

Respectfully submitted,

Louie Bruni



District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board
Conseil d'administration des services sociaux de Sault Ste. Marie
Zhawenimi-Anokiitaagewin

DSSMSSAB BOARD REPORT

AUTHOR: Louie Bruni

DATE: March 20, 2025

RE: HPP Operating Funding Reallocation

RECOMMENDATION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administration Board reallocate the remaining 2024/25 Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) operational funding as follows:

1. \$151,465.29 to CMHA for additional expenses within the emergency shelter system.
2. \$44,000 to CMHA for required operational items in the Supportive Housing Units.
3. \$20,000 to The John Howard Society for required operational items in the Supportive Housing Units.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The HPP investment plan for the fiscal year 2024/2025 was approved by the Board in June 2024. In February of 2025, staff prepared a report outlining capital funding approved in the original investment plan that was committed in 2024/2025. A business case was submitted to the province to move the capital funding to operating under HPP. Staff also informed the Board that a review of the 2024/2025 investment plan would be conducted to determine whether unspent funding would need to be reallocated before March 31st, 2025, year-end.

SUMMARY/OVERVIEW

Emergency Shelter

Due to operational pressures within the emergency shelter system, management recommends reallocating \$151,465.29 of unspent operational funding to support shelter operators within the emergency shelter system.

Emergency shelters face staffing challenges, capacity concerns, and other factors that place pressure on operational budgets. There are also potential requirements to purchase new equipment for individuals to sleep on such as beds or cots from time to time. Additionally, the warming station at the Men's Emergency Shelter has been averaging 221 visits per month and Pauline's Place has been averaging 41 visits per month. (December, January and February).

Supportive Housing Units

Staff is recommending that \$64,000 from Housing Stability Bank (HSB) be reallocated to the Supportive Housing area of HPP to fund CMHA (\$44,000) and The John Howard Society (\$20,000) for fiscal year 2024/2025. This funding will be used to purchase essential items that can promote successful outcomes for participants in supportive housing units. Due to funding constraints in past years, there has been no opportunity to purchase additional items required when move in and/or move outs occur, or if items are required during an individuals stay in the supportive housing program.

In supportive housing settings where individuals may live with high acuity needs, many barriers can prevent stabilization and healing. This funding will assist service providers in setting up bedrooms and common spaces with storage and other necessary items to reduce hoarding behaviors, improve sanitation, and ensure room checks can be done safely. The funding will also allow the providers to purchase any room items that might need to be changed between move ins or move outs as well as during an individuals stay within the supportive housing program.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

The Homelessness Prevention Program aligns with the pillar of Service Delivery and Community Partnerships.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no net municipal financial implications, as the Homelessness Prevention Program funding is 100% provincial funding.

CONCLUSION.

The funding reallocations outlined in this report will continue to support Homelessness Programs funded through HPP. Emergency shelters and supportive bridge units are not long-term housing solutions but remain a vital part of the system. Individuals progressing through the housing continuum require a safe place where they can stabilize and begin their journey to healing.

Respectfully submitted,



Louie Bruni
Chief Operating Officer



March 6, 2025

SENT VIA E-MAIL: stephanieannehopkin@gmail.com

**Ms. Stephanie Hopkin,
Board Chair Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB
548 Albert Street E
Sault Ste. Marie ON P6A 7A7
Dear Ms. Hopkin**

RE: 2025 NOSDA Membership & Executive

The Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association is holding its 2025 Annual General Meeting at the Delta Waterfront Hotel in Sault Ste Marie June 3-5, 2025.

In accordance with the by-law section 4.01 each DSSAB and the City of Greater Sudbury “shall be entitled to appoint two (2) individuals to serve as Members of the Corporation, one of whom shall be the chair of such DSSAB or its Member-Designate, and one of whom shall be a municipal councillor or an elected official from a territory without municipal organization sitting as a member of a DSSAB”.

Also section 4.02 of the by-law states “each member shall serve for a term equivalent to their term of office as a member of the DSSAB that such Member serves. A Member shall cease automatically to be a Member upon the expiry or termination of their term as a member of the DSSAB that such Member serves”.

Selection of NOSDA Members

We would ask the Chair and the DSSAB Board to select their (2) two individuals to serve as members of NOSDA.

Nominations for NOSDA Executive

In addition, this year all three executive members being the Chair and (2) two Vice-Chairs are up for election. This means that one or both of the individuals selected to serve as members of NOSDA from the Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB nominate themselves or be nominated for the position of Chair or Vice Chair of NOSDA.

Please see attached NOSDA Member Selection Form and Executive Nomination Form.

If you have any questions or require further clarification, please contact Fern Dominelli, NOSDA Executive Director at 705-665-2944 or fern.dominelli@nosda.net.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Dominelli".

NOSDA Executive Director

c.c. Mike Nadeau m.nadeau@socialservices-ssmd.ca



2025 NOSDA Member Selection

The _____ selects the following (2)
two individuals to serve as members of NOSDA.

Member # 1

Members Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Representing: _____

Member # 2

Members Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Representing: _____

Authorized by:

DSSAB Board Chair: _____
Print Name Signature

Date: _____

Please return to Fern Dominelli, NOSDA Executive Director 705-665-2944

Email to: fern.dominelli@nosda.net



2025 NOSDA Executive Nomination

I, _____ nominate _____

a NOSDA member in good standing for the position of

☐

NOSDA Chair

☐

NOSDA Vice-Chair

Nomination

Members Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone #: _____

Representing: _____

Nominated by: _____
Nominated by Signature

Date: _____

Please return to Fern Dominelli, NOSDA Executive Director 705-665-2944

Email to: fern.dominelli@nosda.net

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7000

**Ministère des
Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7000



234-2025-356

January 27, 2025

Board Chair Stephanie Hopkin
Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB
S.Hopkin@socialservices-ssmd.ca

Dear Board Chair Hopkin:

Re: 2024-25 Confirmed Funding Allocations - Encampment Response Initiative

I am pleased to confirm a one-time project funding allocation in the amount of **\$257,000** to the Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB for the Encampment Response Initiative under the Homelessness Prevention Program for the 2024-25 fiscal year for the Sault Ste. Marie Encampment Response Proposal to create 8 shelter beds.

Funding Allocation – Sault Ste. Marie DSSAB

Program	Number of Shelter Beds	2024-25 Fiscal Year Confirmed Allocation Amounts
Encampment Response Initiative	8	\$257,000

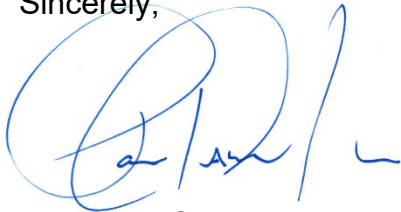
This additional funding is conditional upon the Proponent obtaining all required planning approvals and necessary permits as required.

This funding approval is subject to the fulfillment of terms and conditions as well as administrative procedures that will be outlined in a letter accompanying the Transfer Payment Agreement.

This funding approval is subject to the fulfillment of terms and conditions as well as administrative procedures that will be outlined in a letter accompanying the Transfer Payment Agreement. The Transfer Payment Agreement is to be signed by an authorized signatory and returned to the Ministry as soon as possible. Terms and conditions of the funding are to be fulfilled no later than **March 21, 2025**.

I am pleased that our government is able to support the important work that you do to wind down encampments and improve housing outcomes in your community. I look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,



Hon. Paul Calandra
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Mike Nadeau, Chief Administrative Officer
- Mike Nadeau, Director of Housing Services
- Cindy Couillard, Team Lead, Regional Housing Services,
Municipal Services Office North (Sudbury)
- Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Sean Fraser, Assistant Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing



Dear Valued Customers,

Over the past five years, rising costs and supply chain disruptions have strained EMS budgets and slowed fleet renewals across Canada. Now, proposed retaliatory tariffs threaten to drive costs even higher, making it even more challenging to replace aging ambulances and maintain reliable patient care.

At Demers-Crestline, we understand the pressure it places on the EMS community. As North America's leading ambulance manufacturer, we are committed to standing with you as we navigate these uncertain times together. **Currently, we do not anticipate these tariffs will impact our ability to deliver ambulances to our customers.**

Over the past several months, we have been actively engaging with the United States government officials to address a critical issue that could affect your ability to maintain and expand your fleet of emergency vehicles. The Canadian government plans to impose retaliatory duties on a broad range of U.S. imports, including ambulance vehicles, and essential components, such as chassis. **If implemented, these tariffs could significantly increase the cost of new ambulances.**

We recognize that these additional costs would place a significant financial strain on our customers — especially at a time when fleet ages are reaching historic highs. Adding tariffs to the cost of these life-saving vehicles would only exacerbate the situation, limiting your ability to serve communities and respond to emergencies effectively.

We are actively conveying these concerns to government officials at both the federal and provincial levels, advocating for the exemption of ambulance vehicles, along with their components and equipment, from the proposed tariffs. To be clear, we unreservedly support the strong response from the Government of Canada, coordinated with provinces. As Canadians, we must stand united in restoring the mutually beneficial free trade between our two countries, even as we navigate the short-term challenges for businesses and consumers.

We also believe it is crucial for the Government of Canada to recognize the unique challenges faced by EMS organizations and understand why emergency vehicles should be treated differently from other manufactured goods.

We urge you to join us in advocating for this exemption by taking these actions:

1. **Complete the Government of Canada's consultation survey by March 25 to voice your concerns about the impacts:** <https://forms-formulaires.alpha.canada.ca/en/id/cm7upmkx9008rx268zhy9l6pj>
2. **Contact your local government officials, industry associations, and stakeholders to emphasize the urgent need for this exemption.**

The only certainty in this situation is its unpredictability. Things may have already shifted by the time you read this. We are closely monitoring developments, and we will keep you informed as they evolve. While some factors are beyond our control, our focus remains on supporting you through these challenges.

We are confident that by working together, we will secure a positive outcome for the EMS community. If you would like to discuss this matter in more detail, please feel free to contact Steve or Scott at the email addresses provided below.

Thank you for your continued support.

Steve Hoffrogge
President, Demers-Crestline Canada
shoffrogge@crestlinecoach.com

Scott Sawatsky
Vice President of Sales & Marketing, Demers-Crestline Canada
ssawatsky@crestlinecoach.com