KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

SUBJECT: Northwestern Health Unit Funding
SUBMITTED BY: City of Kenora
YEAR: 2022

BACKGROUND:

Beginning in 2022 municipalities in Northwestern Ontario will see a significant shift in the funding model for the Northwestern Health Unit due to changes made by the Government of Ontario.

The new cost sharing formula for cost shared programs will result in municipalities funding 30% of costs (up from 25%), and the Government of Ontario funding the remaining 70% (down from 75%). The municipal increase of 5 percentage points from 25 to 30 means an increase of 20% to the municipal cost of cost shared programs. Furthermore, the Province is moving approximately $3 million in program expenses that were previously 100% Provincially funded into the package of programs being cost shared by municipalities. These two changes will result in a total approximate increase of 35% to the NWHU annual levy to municipalities.

RECOMMENDATION:

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has mandated a change to the cost-shared funding formula to a 70% Provincial: 30% Municipal levy effective January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS programs that were previously 100% provincially funded will now be included in the cost-shared formula thereby shifting approximately $3 million in expenses into the cost-shared formula; and

WHEREAS the City of Kenora and municipalities in the Kenora District have identified that they cannot afford this 35% increase to their expenses for the provision of public health services due to affordability concerns in their communities:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kenora District Municipal Association lobby the Government of Ontario to reconsider the changes to the Public Health Unit Funding model to address the affordability concerns identified by municipalities, while recognizing the critical importance that decentralized public health services have on the communities in Northwestern Ontario

COMMITTEE ACTION   **CONVENTION ACTION**

Concurrence_____X_____   **Concurrence_____X_____**

Concurrence as Amended_____   **Concurrence as Amended_____**

Non-Concurrence_____   **Non-Concurrence_____**