KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

SUBJECT: Highway 17 – Kenora to Thunder Bay
SUBMITTED BY: Municipality of Red Lake
YEAR: 2022

BACKGROUND:

WHEREAS Ontario Provincial Highway 17, between Kenora and Thunder Bay, is a major travel corridor for the residents of northwestern Ontario; and

WHEREAS there is a growing concern with the winter travel conditions of the highway; and

WHEREAS this winter season, there has been an unprecedented amount of road closures, as many as two (2) road closures in a single day; and

WHEREAS residents are so concerned with the safety of the roads, they are cancelling medical appointments as a result of poor winter road conditions; and

WHEREAS the roads have become progressively worse to travel; and

WHEREAS the highway from Kenora to Thunder Bay continues to be referenced as one of the worst and most dangerous highways in Canada to travel; and

WHEREAS in addition to the poor winter highway conditions, there are concerns with the level of training, skill and experience truck drivers have when it comes to driving in accordance with winter road conditions;

RECOMMENDATION:

NOW THEREFORE MAY IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Kenora District Municipal Association hereby petition the Ministry of Transportation as follows:

a) to review the winter highway maintenance program of Highway 17 between Kenora and Thunder Bay, such as reducing the snow clearance

time to 8 hour clearance, as opposed to the existing 16 hour clearance regulation.

b) to review truck driver training for winter highway conditions; and
c) to review alternative supply chain modes of transportation, such as railway; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Provincial Government plan twinning Highway 17 from Kenora to Thunder Bay to be consistent with the rest of the Trans-Canada Highway, for the safety of our residents and those travelling this portion of highway.

COMMITTEE ACTION	**CONVENTION ACTION**
Concurrence_____X_____	**Concurrence_____X_____**
Concurrence as Amended_____	**Concurrence as Amended_____**
Non-Concurrence_____	**Non-Concurrence_____**