



## DNSSAB BOARD MEETING POST-MEETING AGENDA

Date: **Wednesday, December 17, 2025, 1:30 p.m.**

Location: **DNSSAB Boardroom**  
**200 McIntyre Street East, North Bay, ON, P1B 8V6**

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Pages

**1. Call to Order**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the Board of Directors accepts the Roll Call as read by the Recording Secretary for the  
**DNSSAB Board Meeting of December 17, 2025, at 2:22 PM.**

**1.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**2. Opening Remarks by the Chair**

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board accept the Agenda for the **December 17, 2025**, Board meeting.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

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**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board adopt the minutes of the **November 26, 2025**, proceedings of the  
DNSSAB Board Meeting.

**5. Delegations**

There are no Delegations for the December 17, 2025, DNSSAB Board meeting.

**6. CAO Verbal Update**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board receive the CAO's Verbal Update as presented to the Board  
on **December 17, 2025**.

**7. Consent Agenda**

*All items in the consent agenda are voted on collectively. The Chair will call out each item for*

*consideration of discussion. Any item can be singled out for separate vote; then, only the remaining items will be voted on collectively.*

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the Board receives for information, Consent Agenda items 7.1 through 7.3.

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|-----|---|----|
| 7.1 | 2026 ROMA Conference Delegations, CORP-2025-028                               | 8  |
| 7.2 | Bill 60, Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025, HS-2025-049              | 21 |
| 7.3 | Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs – Northern Zone Director, PS-2025-010 | 23 |

**8. Managers' Reports**

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| 8.1 | 2026 DNSSAB Budget, CORP-2025-029 |
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**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) approves the 2026 DNSSAB Budget as presented and approved at the Finance and Administration Committee Meeting on December 17, 2025, through resolutions FA 2025-18-A, FA 2025-18-B, FA 2025-18-C, FA 2025-18-D, and FA 2025-18-E.

**9. Move In Camera**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board move in-camera on **December 17, 2025**, at **2:37 PM** to discuss matters concerning the security of property of the Board, negotiations, and matters protected by solicitor-client privilege.

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|-----|--|
| 9.1 | In-Camera Agenda   |
| 9.2 | In-Camera Minutes  |
| 9.3 | Confidential Report from Corporate Services Re Security of Property of the Board |
| 9.4 | Confidential Report from Paramedic Services Re Solicitor-Client Privilege        |
| 9.5 | Confidential Report from Housing Services Re Vendor Negotiations                 |
| 9.6 | Back to Open Session   |

**10. Adjourn In Camera**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board approve the actions and directions discussed at the **December 17, 2025**, in-camera session.

**11. Other / New Business**

**12. Next Meeting Date**

The next DNSSAB Board meeting will be held on **January 28, 2026**.

**13. Adjournment**

**Recommended Motion:**

THAT the DNSSAB Board Meeting of **December 17, 2025**, be adjourned at **3:06 PM**.



## DNSSAB BOARD MEETING

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Date:</b>            | <b>November 26, 2025, 1:00 p.m.</b>   |
| <b>Location:</b>        | <b>DNSSAB Boardroom<br/>200 McIntyre Street East, North Bay, ON, P1B 8V6</b>  |
| <b>Members Present:</b> | Chair Mark King<br>Vice Chair Lana Mitchell<br>Amanda Smith<br>Chris Mayne<br>Dan O'Mara<br>Ethel LaValley<br>Jamie Restoule<br>Justine Mallah<br>Maggie Horsfield<br>Mélanie Chenier<br>Peter Chirico<br>Terry Kelly |

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#### 1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.

**Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-78**

Moved by: Amanda Smith

Seconded by: Maggie Horsfield

THAT the Board of Directors accepts the Roll Call as read by the Recording Secretary for the DNSSAB Board Meeting of **November 26, 2025**, at **1:32 PM**.

**CARRIED**

### **1.1 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared.

### **2. Opening Remarks by the Chair**

### **3. Approval of Agenda**

#### **Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-79**

Moved by: Vice Chair Lana Mitchell

Seconded by: Justine Mallah

THAT the DNSSAB Board accept the Agenda for the **November 26, 2025**, Board meeting.

**CARRIED**

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

#### **Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-80**

Moved by: Terry Kelly

Seconded by: Peter Chirico

THAT the DNSSAB Board adopt the minutes of the **October 22, 2025**, proceedings of the Community Services Committee Meeting and the DNSSAB Board Meeting.

**CARRIED**

### **5. Delegations**

There were no Delegations for the November 26, 2025, DNSSAB Board meeting.

### **6. CAO Verbal Update**

#### **Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-81**

Moved by: Dan O'Mara

Seconded by: Jamie Restoule

THAT the DNSSAB Board receive the CAO's Verbal Update as presented to the Board on **November 26, 2025**.

**CARRIED**

**7. Consent Agenda**

There were no Consent Agenda items for the November 26, 2025, DNSSAB Board meeting.

**8. Managers' Reports**

There were no Managers' Reports for the November 26, 2025, DNSSAB Board meeting.

**9. Move In Camera**

**Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-82**

Moved by: Dan O'Mara

Seconded by: Terry Kelly

THAT the DNSSAB Board move in-camera on **November 26, 2025** at **1:53 PM** to discuss matters of negotiations, labour relations, and matters about an identifiable individual.

**CARRIED**

**9.1 In-Camera Agenda**

**9.2 In-Camera Minutes**

**9.3 Confidential Report from Housing Services Re Vendor Negotiations**

**9.4 Confidential Report from Human Resources Re Employee Negotiations**

**9.5 Confidential Report from Human Resources Re Labour Relations**

**9.6 Confidential Report from Human Resources Re Identifiable Individual**

**9.7 Back to Open Session**

**10. Adjourn In Camera**

**Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-83**

Moved by: Justine Mallah

Seconded by: Peter Chirico

THAT the DNSSAB Board approve the actions and directions discussed at the **November 26, 2025**, in-camera session.

**CARRIED**

**11. Other / New Business**

**11.1 2026 Board Meeting Calendar**

**Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-84**

Moved by: Justine Mallah

Seconded by: Chris Mayne

THAT the Board accept the 2026 Meeting Calendar.

**CARRIED**

**12. Next Meeting Date**

The next DNSSAB Board meeting will be held on **December 17, 2025**.

**13. Adjournment**

**Resolution #: DNSSAB 2025-85**

Moved by: Terry Kelly

Seconded by: Jamie Restoule

THAT the DNSSAB Board Meeting of **November 26, 2025**, be adjourned at **2:58 PM**.

**CARRIED**



## BOARD REPORT

### #CORP-2025-028

FOR INFORMATION

or

FOR APPROVAL

**Date:** December 17, 2025

**Purpose:** 2026 ROMA Conference Delegations

**Department Head:** David Plumstead, Manager of Planning, Outcomes and Analytics

**Approver:** Melanie Shaye, Chief Administrative Officer

#### RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact       Remove Barriers       Seamless Access       Learn & Grow

The ROMA Conference allows the Board and Chief Administrative Officer to join provincial delegation meetings, advocate for solutions on pressing areas of concern, and raise awareness of local issues to attract more resources for clients and District residents.

#### BACKGROUND

The Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) hosts an annual conference to engage political and municipal leadership and other stakeholders. This year's conference will be held in Toronto, January 18-20, 2026. In addition to educational programming, keynote speakers and various expert panels, the conference provides an opportunity to meet with provincial government cabinet ministers and senior officials and staff to engage on local issues and challenges.

Historically, the Board has sent a delegation to ROMA conferences to advocate for various DNSSAB programs based on the pressing issues at the time, and the needs of clients and the member municipalities and areas. As this is the last Board meeting before the ROMA Conference in January, staff are preparing the Board for the ROMA delegations in advance.

The upcoming delegations will address current issues raised at recent Board meetings and previous conferences like the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference.

In the program area of Children's Services, there are three delegation requests, made across three ministries. The first delegation to Ministry of Red Tape Reduction includes two issues: reducing administrative burdens for licensed child care agencies and providing more flexible provincial funding—especially for workforce compensation under the Local Priorities stream. The second delegation to Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security seeks to expand the Learn and Stay program to include Early Childhood Education (ECE). The third delegation to Ministry of Education addresses recruitment and retention challenges for ECE and requests an increased 2026 ECE Promotional Grant allocation to align with the scale of local need.

Rounding off the 2026 ROMA delegations are a provincial request for more capital funding for affordable housing, a joint delegation with the Thunder Bay DSSAB to support Urban Native Housing, and a call for dedicated provincial funds to expand the Nipissing Community Paramedicine program to meet growing demand for mental health and substance use supports.

Summary tables with additional information are provided in the tables below under DNSSAB ROMA Delegations.

### **NOSDA Priorities and Advocacy**

In addition to the Board's ROMA delegations, it is important to highlight the broader advocacy agenda being advanced by the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association (NOSDA). NOSDA's priorities for the coming year encompass a range of issues affecting service delivery across the North, including calls for increased investments in affordable and supportive housing, enhanced funding for health and social programs, and improved policy alignment between provincial ministries. Some of these areas overlap with the Board's advocacy efforts, while others are new or complementary. This provides the Board with a view of the wider policy topics that will be championed regionally in 2026. For further information, a summary of NOSDA's 2026 priorities and advocacy areas is included in Appendix A.



## DNSSAB ROMA Delegations

### CHILDREN'S SERVICES

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Early Years and Child Care</b>   |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Red Tape Reduction  |
| <b>Title</b>    | Early Learning Access Hindered by Red Tape  |
| <b>Issue</b>    | The District of Nipissing's early learning and child care sector faces a shortage of 140 staff, limiting access to licensed care for 1,475 children. Complex regulatory requirements and inflexible funding processes restrict agencies' ability to respond efficiently to workforce and service needs.   |
| <b>Impact</b>   | The District of Nipissing's licensed child care agencies face growing administrative challenges from complex licensing, reporting, and funding procedures. These processes slow hiring, constrain how workforce funds can be allocated, and delay service expansion. As a result, many centers operate below capacity while families remain on waitlists. Streamlining these procedures would enhance recruitment, retention, and access to care, supporting family well-being and local economic stability.                    |
| <b>Ask</b>      | That the Province streamline regulatory requirements and provide increased flexibility in the allocation of provincial funding, particularly those earmarked for Workforce Compensation under the Local Priorities stream, to allow these funds to be redirected toward urgent recruitment, retention, and capacity-building initiatives. <u>This funding would also be redirected at enhancing special needs resourcing and general operating thereby allowing further investments towards quality and inclusive services.</u> |

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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Early Years and Child Care</b>   |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Red Tape Reduction  |
| <b>Title</b>    | Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care Program – Cost-Based Funding Hindered by Red Tape   |
| <b>Issue</b>    | The current cost-based funding formula unintentionally penalizes high-performing operators during the reconciliation process.   |
| <b>Impact</b>   | When parent fees collected exceed the 90% occupancy threshold, the excess is recovered by the Province. This effectively penalizes operators who maximize capacity and strive to meet community |

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|            | <p>demand for child care spaces.</p> <p>High-performing providers should not be disadvantaged for operating efficiently and meeting occupancy targets. The existing approach discourages optimal utilization of spaces, which conflicts with the program's objectives of expanding access and affordability.</p>   |
| <b>Ask</b> | <p>That the Province undertake a review of the cost-based funding formula to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure reconciliation processes do not penalize operators for achieving high occupancy.</li> <li>• Align funding mechanisms with program goals of accessibility, sustainability, and operational excellence.</li> <li>• Reduce administrative barriers that create unintended disincentives for performance.</li> </ul> |

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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Early Years and Child Care</b>   |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of College, Universities, Research Excellence and Security   |
| <b>Title</b>    | Workforce Shortage Threatens Nipissing Child Care   |
| <b>Issue</b>    | Ontario faces critical shortages of qualified early childhood educators, especially Francophone, Indigenous, and English-speaking professionals. Nipissing mirrors this challenge with 140 fewer professionals, limiting licensed care and impacting families, children, and the local economy.   |
| <b>Impact</b>   | <p>The District of Nipissing is facing a shortfall of 140 trained professionals, causing licensed agencies to operate below capacity and leaving 1,475 children waiting for care. This shortage restricts parental workforce participation, limits critical early learning for children, and strains the local economy.</p> <p>Without targeted recruitment and retention efforts, especially supporting Francophone and Indigenous communities, these challenges will persist.</p> |
| <b>Ask</b>      | <p>That the Province expands the Learn and Stay Program, currently available to health care professionals such as paramedics, to include Early Childhood Education (ECE). Extending this model to the early learning sector would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract new talent into the sector by reducing financial barriers.</li> </ul>   |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support retention by encouraging graduates to remain in their communities.</li> <li>• Address regional disparities, ensuring rural and northern areas like Nipissing have access to qualified professionals.</li> </ul> <p>This investment would not only alleviate the current shortage of ECEs but also strengthen Ontario's commitment to accessible, high-quality child care for all families, fostering economic stability and improved outcomes for children across the Province.</p> <p>DNSSAB, in collaboration with local colleges, is very interested in partnering with the Province as a pilot district to demonstrate the effectiveness of this initiative and inform its broader implementation.</p> |
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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Early Years and Child Care</b>  |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Education  |
| <b>Title</b>    | Early Learning and Child Care Recruitment and Retention  |
| <b>Issue</b>    | <p>Ontario's early learning and child care sector faces a severe workforce shortage, especially among Francophone, Indigenous, and English-speaking professionals. Without immediate intervention, areas like Nipissing (short 140 staff) will struggle to provide accessible, high-quality, inclusive care.</p>   |
| <b>Impact</b>   | <p>The District of Nipissing is currently experiencing a shortage of 140 early learning and child care professionals. The shortage of qualified professionals has forced licensed child care agencies to operate below their approved capacity.</p> <p>As a result:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents face extended waitlists, making it difficult to return to work and contribute to the economy.</li> <li>• Children miss out on critical early learning opportunities, which are foundational for lifelong success.</li> <li>• Local communities experience economic strain, as workforce participation declines and employers struggle to retain talent.</li> </ul> <p>In the District of Nipissing alone, 1,475 children are currently waiting for licensed child care, and current funding does not reflect the severity of the shortage. Without targeted recruitment and retention</p> |

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|            | <p>strategies, the situation will worsen, impacting families, employers, and the broader economy.</p>  |
| <b>Ask</b> | <p>That the province expands the “Learn and Stay” Program, currently available to health care professionals such as paramedics, to include Early Childhood Education (ECE). Extending this model to the early learning sector would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attract new talent into the sector by reducing financial barriers.</li> <li>• Support retention by encouraging graduates to remain in their communities.</li> <li>• Address regional disparities, ensuring rural and northern areas like Nipissing have access to qualified professionals.</li> </ul> <p>This investment would not only alleviate the current shortage of ECEs but also strengthen Ontario’s commitment to accessible, high-quality child care for all families, fostering economic stability and improved outcomes for children across the province.</p> <p>DNSSAB, in collaboration with local colleges, is very interested in partnering with the province as a pilot district to demonstrate the effectiveness of this initiative and inform its broader implementation.</p> |

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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Early Years and Child Care</b>  |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Education  |
| <b>Title</b>    | Aligning ECE Funding with Local Need   |
| <b>Issue</b>    | The District of Nipissing faces 140 vacancies and 1,475 children waiting for child care. Current 2026 ECE Promotional Grant funding does not match the scale of local need. Increased, equitable funding is essential to stabilize the workforce and sustain accessible, inclusive early learning programs.  |
| <b>Impact</b>   | While Ontario has acknowledged the province-wide early learning workforce challenges, the District of Nipissing’s 2026 ECE Promotional Grant allocation of \$5,000 does not align with the scale of local need. With 140 vacancies and 1,475 children waiting for care, licensed agencies continue to struggle to meet community demand and advance provincial priorities for affordability and inclusion. |



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|            | <p>Limited funding restricts efforts to recruit and retain qualified educators, expand licensed spaces, and provide culturally responsive care for Francophone and Indigenous families. Increased, needs-based funding would strengthen workforce stability, improve access for families, and align Nipissing's child care system with Ontario's vision for high-quality, inclusive early learning.</p> |
| <b>Ask</b> | <p>That the Province review and increase the 2026 ECE Promotional Grant allocation for the District of Nipissing, ensuring it is equitable with funding provided to other regions facing similar workforce challenges.</p>  |

## HOUSING SERVICES

| Program  | Housing Services  |
|----------|---|
| Ministry | Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing   |
| Title    | Affordable Rental Housing Shortage in Nipissing   |
| Issue    | <p>A lack of affordable rental housing units in Nipissing District is leading to housing insecurity and homelessness. Rising rents and stagnant incomes make securing safe, stable accommodation difficult.</p>   |
| Impact   | <p>The need for more affordable housing in the Nipissing District is critical because many residents are facing rising rents and stagnant incomes, making it difficult to secure safe, stable accommodation.</p> <p>Expanding the supply of affordable units helps ensure that vulnerable populations, such as seniors, low-income earners, and young families, have access to suitable housing options.</p> <p>Additionally, investing in affordable housing contributes to community stability, supports local economic growth, and reduces the strain on social services. In 2024, DNSSAB commissioned a housing targets study which determined that 1,517 net new RGI units and 2,949 net new affordable housing units are needed by 2035 to meet all the affordability, adequacy, and suitability needs of households in the District.</p> |

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|            | However, DNSSAB currently lacks sufficient funding to advance shovel-ready affordable housing projects that would begin to address this critical need. |
| <b>Ask</b> | Capital funding to increase new housing development in the Nipissing District.   |

## PARAMEDIC SERVICES

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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>Paramedic Services – Community Paramedicine</b>   |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Health   |
| <b>Title</b>    | Expanding Paramedic Supports for Mental Health   |
| <b>Issue</b>    | Nipissing's Community Paramedicine program supports residents with mental health and substance use needs, but growing demand exceeds capacity. Increased investment can expand outreach and partnerships to better serve vulnerable populations and reduce strain on emergency systems.  |
| <b>Impact</b>   | The District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board manages local social and paramedic services, including the Community Paramedicine (CP) program. CP teams work with community partners to assist residents struggling with mental health and substance use, providing proactive and compassionate care outside hospital settings. This integrated support system, particularly through the low-barrier shelter initiative, has improved stability for at-risk individuals and reduced emergency call volumes. However, the increasing complexity of mental health and substance use crises in Nipissing is stretching current resources. |
| <b>Ask</b>      | Dedicated funding to strengthen Community Paramedicine capacity, through additional outreach staff, mental health supports, and integrated partnerships to allow earlier interventions, reduce emergency transport reliance, and promote better long-term outcomes for clients and the community.  |

## DNSSAB-TBDSAB JOINT DELEGATION

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| <b>Program</b>  | <b>District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board and District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board</b> |
| <b>Ministry</b> | Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing  |
| <b>Title</b>    | Affordable Rental Housing Shortage in Nipissing  |



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| <b>Issue</b>  | <p>COCHI funding has been crucial for DNSSAB and TBDSSAB to provide affordable housing, including capital projects, repairs, maintenance, housing supplements, and homelessness prevention. However, a significant proportion of this funding is required to support Urban Native Housing (UNH) units—39% of DNSSAB's and 36% of TBDSSAB's COCHI allocations, while UNH units make up only 4.8% and approximately 8% of their total housing portfolios, respectively.</p> <p>Both DSSABs need additional and distinct funding to continue supporting the maintenance and development of UNH units in each district.</p>  |
| <b>Impact</b> | <p>COCHI funding has enabled the repair and renewal of nearly 1,600 units in DNSSAB's area and over 2,900 units in TBDSSAB's area, including support for 85 legacy UNH units (DNSSAB) and over 270 legacy units (TBDSSAB) up to March 31, 2026. The number of supported UNH units has significantly increased in both districts.</p> <p>UNH providers, such as OAHS (Nipissing), NPTBDC, and GNHC (Thunder Bay), offer subsidized, supportive, and transitional housing for Indigenous peoples. Culturally appropriate housing is necessary due to high rates of homelessness and discrimination among Indigenous populations in these districts.</p> <p>Dedicated funding is essential for Indigenous housing corporations to assist Indigenous peoples across the housing continuum and provide culturally appropriate services, as well as to maintain and develop additional supportive and transitional units for Indigenous peoples.</p> |
| <b>Ask</b>    | <p>Additional and distinct funding to support the ongoing maintenance and development of Urban Native Housing units in the Nipissing District and the District of Thunder Bay.</p>   |

## FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

N/A

## NEXT STEPS

Once the results of the above ROMA delegations are known they will be communicated to the Board in future correspondence.

## RESOURCES CITED

DNSSAB ROMA Delegations from respective program Directors and Managers.

NOSDA Speaking Notes OMSSA 47 Oct. 24, 2025. Note: The speaking notes were organized and formatted into tables by the report author.

**AUTHOR:** David Plumstead, Manager of Planning, Outcomes and Analytics

## Appendix A: NOSDA Priorities and Advocacy 2025-2026

|                         |  |
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| <b>Program</b>          | Housing  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Community Housing - Infrastructure Funding</i>  |
| <b>Issue</b>            | The landscape has changed in Northern Ontario since 2017. The cost to build is now over \$500/square foot and the cost per unit is over \$500,000. |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Work with Ellis Don to carry out a portfolio build that involves turn-key development across Northern Ontario.                                     |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | NOSDA and Ellis Don have identified units for development across many sites in Northern Ontario.   |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Housing  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Ontario Health North and Supportive Housing Proposal</i>  |
| <b>Issue</b>            | Prevent evictions; reduce emergency room visits and hospital admissions; emergency services calls/ interventions.  |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Provide a funding allocation to Ontario Health North so each of the 11 NOSDA members can implement integrated mental health and substance use support teams within housing in their communities. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Increased funding for supportive housing.  |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Housing  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB)</i>   |
| <b>Issue</b>            | Lengthy and ineffective tenant disputes and resolution process.                                  |
| <b>Solution</b>         | DSSABs, CMSMs, and Local Housing Corporations should be exempt from the provincial LTB hearings. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | LTB process exemption.   |

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| <b>Program</b>  | Homelessness  |
| <b>Title</b>    | <i>Address Rising Homelessness</i>  |
| <b>Issue</b>    | Conduct further research and statistical modeling to determine the optimal financial contribution required to end homelessness in Northern Ontario. |
| <b>Solution</b> | Research evidence to support NOSDA and CMHA regional investment strategies and advocate for provincial funding.                                     |

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| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Increased funding for homelessness. |
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| <b>Program</b>          | Social Services Skills Development  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Social Infrastructure Development in Northern Ontario</i>  |
| <b>Issue</b>            | Align the skills of frontline social services workers with the evolving demands of Northern Ontario's labour market and economy.  |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Ensure that frontline social services staff have the advanced skills, tools, and partnerships combined with the industry specific expertise required to deliver informed, mental health and substance use-integrated, employment-focused case management. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | NOSDA requests ongoing annualized funding of \$12 million to support the professional development and training of frontline social services staff across Northern Ontario.  |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Paramedic Services  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Community Paramedicine (CP) Funding</i>  |
| <b>Issue</b>            | The CP allocations are based on current long-term care waiting lists. The CP funding needs to remain 100% provincially funded now that it is a permanent program. |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Continue as a provincially funded program.  |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Ensure the ongoing 100% funding for the program.  |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Paramedic Services   |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Three-Year Paramedic Degree program</i>   |
| <b>Issue</b>            | Increase competencies and skill sets of paramedics to meet increasing standards and community health needs.                          |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Colleges in Ontario are looking to the Ministry of Colleges and Ministry of Health to approve a three-year Paramedic Degree program. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | As equal 50/50 funders of Paramedic Services in Northern Ontario, NOSDA should be formally included in this decision-making process. |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Early Learning and Child Care   |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>New CWELCC Funding Formula</i>   |
| <b>Issue</b>            | The province mandates a minimum of 37% access rate to CWELCC funded spaces in Northern Ontario.   |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Provide increased funding flexibility in the funding formula to allow better allocation of resources to meet operator and family needs. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Expand the Ontario Learn and Stay Grant in Northern Ontario to include Early Childhood Education.                                       |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Social Assistance  |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Social Assistance Earnings Exemptions</i>   |
| <b>Issue</b>            | Large benefit reductions relative to employment earnings can create a disincentive to work.          |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Incentivize employment and financial independence for social assistance recipients on Ontario Works. |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Implement a flat \$1,000 per month earnings exemption for OW.  |

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| <b>Program</b>          | Social Assistance   |
| <b>Title</b>            | <i>Employment Ontario (EO) and OW Targets</i>   |
| <b>Issue</b>            | The OW employment target of 12% may be unrealistic, seeing that clients are referred directly to EO at time of application with little DSSAB assistance or influence. |
| <b>Solution</b>         | Adjust the target to recognize Northern Ontario health and economic challenges or provide additional resources to cover the additional costs.                         |
| <b>Area of Advocacy</b> | Adjust OW employment targets for Northern Ontario.  |



## BOARD REPORT #HS-2025-049

FOR INFORMATION

or

FOR APPROVAL

**Date:** December 17, 2025

**Purpose:** Bill 60, Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025

**Department Head:** Stacey Cyopeck, Director of Housing Services

**Approver:** Melanie Shaye, Chief Administrative Officer

### RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact       Remove Barriers       Seamless Access       Learn & Grow

**Remove Barriers** – Reforms contained in Bill 60 are aimed at expediting processes with the Landlord and Tenant Board but could place additional pressures on homelessness prevention services and could limit DNSSAB's ability to house those in need.

### BACKGROUND

On November 24, 2025, the third reading of the Fighting Delays, Building Faster Act, 2025, otherwise known as Bill 60, was passed by the Government of Ontario. The bill includes a series of reforms that will impact landlord and tenant disputes in the Province. Bill 60 comprises thirteen proposals concerning landlords and tenants, aimed at expediting procedures and enhancing access to the Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB). These changes, however, are anticipated to negatively impact tenants and could worsen homelessness by reducing tenant protections. The notable changes include:

- Eliminated compensation requirements for landlord's own use evictions (N12), with proper notice.
- Shortened rent arrears eviction notice period from 14 days to 7 days.
- Shortened the time available for tenants to request a review of an LTB order from 30 days to 15 days.
- Increased requirements for tenants to raise health and safety issues at an LTB rent arrears hearing.

- Increased provincial discretion regarding what is defined as “persistent” for late payment of rent.
- New restrictions limiting the LTB’s ability to consider tenant personal circumstances when postponing evictions.

Although Bill 60 may result in accelerated LTB processes and increased protections for landlords, the potential impacts to tenants could include:

- Increased risk of eviction for non-payment of rent.
- Increased challenges for tenants to address maintenance/health and safety issues.
- Less tenant flexibilities available for consideration by the LTB.

Regarding landlords and community housing providers, Bill 60 will make the eviction process smoother and faster. Financial losses will be mitigated because of the shortened eviction notice period and the ability to receive up-front costs from tenants who are seeking to raise new issues at LTB hearings.

## **FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

Access to homelessness services including emergency shelter services, financial assistance programs, and eviction prevention services may increase because of the passing of Bill 60. As the service system manager for housing and homelessness, DNSSAB Housing Services will closely monitor the impacts of Bill 60. Through Coordinated Access Nipissing, the impacts of the new legislation will be monitored using HIFIS data and quantitative data from the Coordinated Access Nipissing membership including the local Community Advisory Board. At the program level, expenditures for emergency financial support programs for individuals at-risk of homelessness will also continue to be closely monitored.

## **OPTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**

N/A

## **NEXT STEPS**

Housing Services will monitor the implementation of Bill 60 and its impacts as identified in this report.

## **RESOURCES CITED**

N/A

**AUTHOR:** Stacey Cyopeck, Director of Housing Services



## BOARD REPORT #PS-2025-010

FOR INFORMATION

or

FOR APPROVAL

**Date:** December 17, 2025

**Purpose:** Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs – Northern Zone Director

**Department Head:** Stephen Kirk, Chief of Paramedic Services

**Approver:** Melanie Shaye, Chief Administrative Officer

### RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact       Remove Barriers       Seamless Access       Learn & Grow

In alignment with DNSSAB's strategic plan, participation in the Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs ensures that local perspectives and input are included in provincial advocacy efforts for paramedic services and the development of provincial programs.

### BACKGROUND

The Ontario Association of Paramedic Chiefs (OAPC) is an association that represents the 56 services across Ontario and includes Ornge Air Ambulance. It is comprised of six executive members and nine zone directors. These positions are elected and carry a two-year term.

On November 5, 2025, Chief of Paramedic Services, Stephen Kirk, was elected to the role of one of two Northern Zone Directors and will hold this position until October 2027. On November 18 and 19, 2025, Chief Kirk had the privilege of accompanying the OAPC Board during their Ontario Parliamentary Government Relations dates. During this time, the group collectively met with approximately 40 members of parliament, their parliamentary assistants, or representatives.

The focus of their meetings was to advocate for support of the OAPC's request for paramedics to be recognized as Regulated Healthcare Professional under the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991, S.O. 1991, c. 18. This advocacy calls for establishing a self-regulating College of Paramedics to replace the current employer and base-hospital certification model with consistent province-wide standards for entry-to-practice, ongoing competence, and



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professional conduct across all settings, including community paramedicine and specialized environments.

Key benefits of this recognition are stronger public protection and accountability, less duplication in regulations, enhanced labour mobility to align Ontario with other provinces, and better support for paramedics as they take on expanded roles in relieving pressure on emergency departments, long-term care facilities, and underserved communities. DNSSAB's participation highlights its dedication to modernizing the health system and promoting integrated, community-based care for residents across the District.

## **FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS**

N/A

## **RESOURCES CITED**

Regulated Health Professions Act, S.O. 1991, c. 18. (1991). Retrieved from [www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/91r18](http://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/91r18)

**AUTHOR:** Stephen Kirk, Chief of Paramedic Services