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Health Unit

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December 2, 2015

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ms. Lorraine Fry and Ms. Donna Kosmack Co-chairs Smoke-Free Housing Ontario

Dear Ms Fry and Ms. Kosmack:

Re: Endorsement of Action for Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing

At its meeting on November 19, 2015, the Sudbury & District Board of Health carried the following resolution #55-15:

WHEREAS smoking in multi-unit housing results in significant exposure to the health harming effects of tobacco smoke; and

WHEREAS area municipalities and service boards that are landlords of multi-unit housing can adopt no-smoking policies that set an example and protect health, such as that adopted by the Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board to support smoke-free social housing effective January 1, 2015;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health support the Northwestern Health Unit motion (88-2015) on smokefree multi-unit housing, the efforts of the Smoke-Free Housing Ontario Coalition and others, in the following actions and policies to reduce the exposure of second-hand smoke in multi-unit housing:

- (1) Encourage all landlords and property owners of multi-unit housing to voluntarily adopt no-smoking policies in their rental units or properties;
- (2) Advocate that all future private sector rental properties and buildings developed in Ontario should be smoke-free from the onset;
- (3) Encourage public/social housing providers to voluntarily adopt nosmoking policies in their units and/or properties;
- (4) Advocate that all future public/social housing developments in Ontario should be smoke-free from the onset;
- (5) Encourage the Ontario Ministry of Housing to develop government policy and programs to facilitate the provision of smoke-free housing.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be submitted to the Smoke-Free Housing Ontario Coalition, the Ontario Minister of Letter

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Municipal Affairs and Housing, local members of Provincial Parliament (MPP), the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), all Ontario Boards of Health, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities and SDHU municipalities for their information and support.

Members of the Sudbury & District Board of Health hope that this motion will impact the tobacco control decisions you make, in an effort to protect all Ontario residents living in multi-unit housing from the impact of second-hand smoke exposure. I am confident that together, we can ensure a healthier Ontario for all.

Thank you for your attention to this important public health issue.

Sincerely,

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honourable Ted McMeekin, Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Glenn Thibeault, MPP, Sudbury

France Gélinas, MPP, Nickel Belt

Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin

Dr. David Williams, Interim Chief Medical Officer of Health

Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Ontario Boards of Health

Gary McNamara, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Alan Spacek, President, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

Sudbury & District Health Unit Constituent Municipalities