RE: Public Health Restructuring

THAT with respect to Public Health Restructuring, the Board of Health:

1. Affirms its support for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit;

2. Requests the Province of Ontario to maintain the health protection and health promotion mandate of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit;

3. Requests the Province of Ontario to maintain the current 75 percent provincial, 25 percent municipal funding for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit;

4. Requests the Province of Ontario to stop the planned reduction of Ontario public health units from 35 to 10 and planned reduction of $200 million from public health, and instead initiate consultation with municipalities and public health agencies on the public health system in Ontario;

5. Directs the Medical of Health of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit to work with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies to support their efforts on responding to the provincial cuts to public health in Ontario;

6. Requests the Province of Ontario to recognize the vast distance and lack of homogeneity in Ontario, north of the French River.
Accordingly, the Province should ensure that distances are manageable and that public health units are not overwhelmed because they are providing service to areas that are too large and vast.