



The Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay

P.O. Box 40, 1 Selkirk Avenue, Terrace Bay, ON, P0T 2W0
Phone: (807) 825-3315 **Fax:** (807) 825-9576

November 19, 2024

Minister of Health Sylvia Jones
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Dear Minister Jones,

At the Township of Terrace Bay Regular Council Meeting held on Monday September 16, 2024, the following resolution was put forth by Councillor Chris Dube and was passed.

Re: Ambulance Shortages and Healthcare System Issues

Resolution 266-2024

Moved by: Councillor Johnson

Seconded by: Councillor Dube

WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Terrace Bay is gravely concerned about the ongoing shortages and staffing challenges facing Superior North EMS (SNEMS);

WHEREAS, the provincial funding for ambulance services, currently at 50%, along with the city's 50% contribution, has been falling short, leading to financial strain on municipalities and regional partners, including the City of Thunder Bay;

WHEREAS, the rolling shortages of paramedics and EMS personnel in the region present a significant risk to public safety and healthcare services in northern communities, which are disproportionately affected by the province-wide shortage of paramedics;

WHEREAS, recruitment and retention issues, including insufficient wages and benefits, lack of mental health supports, frequent exposure to traumatic experiences, and inadequate recovery time between work periods, are causing high turnover rates and burnout among EMS workers;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Honorable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, be requested to take immediate action to address the funding shortfalls and structural challenges in the delivery of EMS services in northern communities, including:

1. Increasing provincial funding to support EMS services and reduce the financial burden on municipalities;
2. Implementing incentives such as "learn and stay" grants to encourage paramedics to live and work in northern Ontario;
3. Enhancing support systems for EMS workers, including improved wages, benefits, and mental health resources.



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AND THAT, this resolution be forwarded to Minister Sylvia Jones, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all Ontario municipalities.

Sincerely,

J. Hall
Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk

CC:
AMO
All Ontario Municipalities