April 18, 2008

Via Electronic Mail

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Room 281, Legislative Building
Queen’s Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

Re: Retirement Homes

At its April 17, 2008 meeting, the Sudbury & District Board of Health passed the following motion #27-08:

WHEREAS there are estimated to be over 700 rest and retirement homes in Ontario including 12 within the Sudbury & District Health Unit boundaries; and

WHEREAS the health and well being of residents of rest and retirement homes need to be protected; and

WHEREAS there is no legislation directly pertaining to rest and retirement homes that requires retirement homes to register with their local boards of health; and

WHEREAS the Region of Durham Council passed a motion on March 5, 2008 and has submitted a letter dated March 7, 2008 to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty requesting the provincial government introduce legislation respecting retirement homes including requiring the registering of rest/retirement homes with the local board of health;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury and District Board of Health support the Region of Durham Council’s motion dated March 5, 2008; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario, Ministers responsible for Seniors, Health and Long-Term Care, Health Promotion, Municipal Affairs and Housing, local area Members of Provincial Parliament and all Ontario Boards of Health.
The Board seeks your attention and support in this important matter.

Yours sincerely,

Original signed by

Vera Etches, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Acting Medical Officer of Health

c.: The Honourable Rick Bartolucci, Local Member of Provincial Parliament
The Honourable Michael Brown, Local Member of Provincial Parliament
The Honourable France Gélinas, Local Member of Provincial Parliament
The Honourable Margarett Best, Minister of Health Promotion
The Honourable Aileen Carroll, Minister responsible for Seniors
The Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
The Honourable Jim Watson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ontario Boards of Health