May 8, 2008

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier and
Minister of Research and Innovation
Room 281, Main Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON  M7A 1A1

11.1 (b)

RE: MEMORANDUM FROM DR. ROBERT KYLE, COMMISSIONER
& MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH, DATED APRIL 24, 2008
RE: GREY BRUCE BOARD OF HEALTH RESOLUTION
(OUR FILE: P10-03)

Honourable Sir, please be advised the Health & Social Services
Committee of Regional Council considered the above matter and at a
meeting held on May 7, 2008 Council adopted the following
recommendations of the Committee:

"a) THAT the following resolution passed by the Grey Bruce Board of Health
at their March 28, 2008 meeting be endorsed:

"WHEREAS the Grey Bruce Unit area continues to have rabid
animal cases; and

WHEREAS the rabies vaccine is only available to veterinarians to
administer to animals as per regulation 567; and

WHEREAS farmers already purchase other vaccines from
veterinarian clinics and routinely administer to their farm animals;
and

WHEREAS there is a Livestock Medicine Education Program
organized by Ridgetown College providing farmers access to a
one day course to learn injection sites, proper storage & handling,
disposal of sharps, reading labels and record keeping, with
certification every five years; and

WHEREAS since the fall 2004, the low-cost rabies vaccination
clinics in Grey and Bruce Counties were discontinued whereby
individuals must now take pets to their local veterinarian for rabies
vaccination including a physical exam; and

WHEREAS a physical exam of the animal is required before
administration of the rabies vaccine, which is cost prohibitive to
many people; and
WHEREAS the rabid skunk populations in Grey and Dufferin Counties are the subject of ongoing research conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources using oral rabies vaccine bait in selected agricultural and forested areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for the Grey Bruce Health Unit requests the Government of Ontario to provide low-cost rabies immunization clinics, allow farmers to purchase rabies vaccine as they currently do with other vaccines for their farm animals, and that the Ministry of Natural Resources provide wide-spread oral rabies vaccine baiting in areas where rabid skunks have been identified; and

FURTHER THAT they may be so advised, copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Minister of Food, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, alPHa, local Members of Provincial and Federal Parliament, all Ontario Boards of Health, College of Veterinarians, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and Agriculture Canada.

b) THAT the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Health and Long-Term Care, and Natural Resources, Durham's MPPs, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, alPHa, College of Veterinarians of Ontario, and all Ontario boards of health be so advised.

Pat M. Madill, AMCT, CMM
Regional Clerk

PMM/lf

c: The Honourable L. Dombrowsky, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
   The Honourable G. Smitherman, Minister of Health & Long-Term Care
   The Honourable D. Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources
   Ms. L. Scott, MPP (Haliburton/Victoria/Brock)
   Mr. W. Arthurs, MPP (Pickering/Ajax/Uxbridge)
   Ms. C. Elliott, MPP (Whitby/Ajax)
   Mr. J. O'Toole, MPP (Durham)
   Mr. J. Ouellette, MPP (Oshawa)
   Mr. J. Dickson, MPP (Ajax/Pickering)
   Dr. G. Pasut, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health
   Ms. L. Stewart, Executive Director, alPHa
   Ms. S. Carlyle, Registrar, College of Veterinarians of Ontario
   Ontario Boards of Health
   Dr. R. J. Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health