



MEDIA RELEASE – March 26, 2008

Board Approves 2.3% Decrease in 2008 Budget for Area Municipalities and Townships without Municipal Organization

At the March 20, 2008 Meeting of the District of Timiskaming Social Services Administration Board (DTSSAB), the 2008 Budget was approved as follows:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Net</u>
Ontario Disability Support Program	\$16,087,421	\$ 3,514,688
Ontario Works	\$ 6,509,885	\$ 1,645,191
Child Care	\$ 1,613,801	\$ 435,975
Social Housing	\$ 5,263,746	\$ 1,526,144
Emergency Medical Services	\$ 5,223,015	\$ 2,374,597
Best Start	\$ 6,716,030	\$ 0
Board	\$ 91,150	\$ 91,150
Sub-Total	\$41,505,048	\$ 9,587,745
Less: Contributions from Working Fund Reserve	\$ 0	\$ 0
Total	<u>\$41,505,048</u>	<u>\$ 9,587,745</u>

The gross expenditures represent the total program delivery costs, while the net expenditures represent the total share for area municipalities, townships without municipal organization (TWOMO), and first nations. The TWOMO and first nation expenditures are 100% provincially funded, while the municipal share is levied proportionally to 23 member municipalities in the District of Timiskaming.

For 2008, a decrease of approximately 2.3% or \$228,765 in the net share is projected. This reduction is achieved through the various programs and funding formulas from the Provincial and Federal governments. The impact on each municipality will differ based on the cost apportionment formula used.

Some of the highlights approved in the 2008 Budget providing a direct benefit to the residents of Timiskaming include:

- ✓ 3 new ambulances and 2 emergency response vehicles;
- ✓ replacement of 11 automatic external defibrillators and oxygen monitoring equipment;
- ✓ a more flexible discretionary benefits policy for Ontario Works and ODSP clients;
- ✓ capital improvements for our Social Housing properties; and
- ✓ enhanced programming in Children's Services.

- FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT -

Mr. Norman Menard, Board Chair

OR

Ms. Melissa Harrison, Chief Administrative Officer (A)