

NORTHERN ONTARIO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE UNIVERSITY

Mover: Councillor S. Kinach

Secunder: Councillor M. Scott

WHEREAS the City of Sault Ste. Marie recognizes the urgent need for physicians in Northern Ontario as it is experiencing a shortage of trained physicians and specialist physicians; and

WHEREAS life expectancy of Northern residents is more than two years lower than the Ontario average, and that mental health and addictions are at a four times higher rate; and

WHEREAS one in eight Northern residents does not have access to a family doctor and many must travel long distances to access health-care services, representing the failure of health care to many in Northern Ontario; and

WHEREAS communities in Northern Ontario require access to equitable health care, especially underserved rural, Indigenous, and Francophone communities; and

WHEREAS Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) University's current base funding rates have not been increased sufficiently to accommodate growth and expansion, or recognition of the added costs stemming from the medical school becoming an independent university:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT with the announcement of unprecedented medical expansion for the NOSM University's medical programs, the City of Sault Ste. Marie urges the Provincial government to grant NOSM University's request for a permanent increase in annual base funding of \$4.0 million before the end of the 2023-2024 fiscal year so it can continue to deliver on the mandate that was originally established by this Provincial Government in response to the needs of Northern municipalities;

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Premier Doug Ford, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Sylvia Jones, Minister of Colleges and Universities Jill Dunlop, MPPs Greg Rickford, Vic Fedeli, George Pirie, Ross Romano, Kevin Holland; Association of Municipalities of Ontario, Northern Ontario School of Medicine University, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities, Northern Ontario Academic Medicine Association and the leaders of the opposition parties of Ontario.