

June 4, 2020

Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General
George Drew Building
18th Floor, 25 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON
M7A 1Y6

Via email to: sylvia.jones@pc.ola.org

RE: DNSSAB as OPP Board

Dear Solicitor General,

I am writing on behalf of the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) regarding the provincial government's consultations on the establishment of new OPP detachment Boards. It has been suggested that District Social Services Administration Boards (DSSABs) could expand their mandate in to policing and also function as OPP detachment boards. This topic was recently discussed by our Board and we would like to convey that **having the Nipissing DSSAB oversee an OPP detachment is not a viable option or solution for consideration at this time.** This view is also consistent with that of the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) which indicates that "the current DSSAB's would not be the best solution for overseeing the Northern OPP Detachments" (FONOM Media Release, May 14, 2020).

The Board realizes that DSSABs functioning as OPP Detachment Boards may work well in other northern areas based on unique circumstances and on a case-by-case basis. However, in Nipissing District this governance model does not work for the following reasons:

To start, the Nipissing DSSAB Board is comprised of 12 elected officials representing 11 municipalities and two unincorporated areas. Most of our Board members however, represent

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municipalities that operate their own police services – this presents a representation and governance problem with respect to overseeing a local OPP Detachment Board. Next, the OPP Detachment Board boundaries would need to be aligned with the DSSAB district boundaries to avoid additional layers of complexity and governance issues (for example, requiring more than one DSSAB on the OPP Board). Currently, these OPP boundaries are reviewed every five years based on local needs, and our Board believes realigning them to the DSSAB boundaries will be problematic. And finally, both points above have financial implications as the OPP Detachment Board expense would only be apportioned to those member municipalities with an OPP detachment.

Thank you for hearing the Board's concerns. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this in further detail, feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Mark King,
Chairman of the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board

cc: Catherine Matheson, CAO, District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board