

December 6, 2024

Sylvia Jones  
Minister of Health 30:20  
College Park 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, 777 Bay St.  
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3  
Delivered via email: [Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org](mailto:Sylvia.Jones@pc.ola.org)

Dear Minister Jones,

**Re: Approval of Voluntary Merger of Porcupine and Timiskaming Health Units**

We are pleased to share resolutions from the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU) and the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) confirming our final approvals for the voluntary merger between PHU and THU. The PHU and THU Boards of Health and our respective leadership teams have been working diligently preparing for this merger and acknowledge the unique opportunity to strengthen public health across our northeastern region.

The Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit appreciate the investments and support for the voluntary merger of the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit and the government's commitment to strengthening public health.

Sincerely,

Michelle Boileau  
Chair, Board of Health Porcupine Health Unit

Stacy Wight  
Chair, Board of Health Timiskaming Health Unit

Dr. Lianne Catton,  
Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer  
Porcupine Health Unit

Dr. Glenn Corneil  
Acting Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer  
Timiskaming Health Unit

Cc: Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH)  
Elizabeth Walker, Executive Lead, Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Brent Feeney, Director, Accountability and Liaison Branch  
PHU member municipalities  
George Pirie, Minister of Mines, Member of Provincial Parliament - Timmins,  
Guy Bourgoin, Member of Provincial Parliament – Mushkegowuk – James Bay

**Porcupine Health Unit**  
169 Pine St. S  
Timmins, ON P4N 8B7  
1-800-461-1818

**Timiskaming Health Unit**  
247 Whitewood Avenue, Unit 43  
New Liskeard, ON P0J 1P0  
1-866-747-4305

John Vanthof, Member of Provincial Parliament – Timiskaming - Cochrane  
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament – Algoma – Manitoulin  
Ontario Boards of Health  
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa)

Encl: Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit *Resolution BOH-2024-12-06 Funding Review and Approval to Merge*  
Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit *Resolution #62R-2024 Final Merger Approval*

# BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE PORCUPINE HEALTH UNIT

## Board of Health Resolution

**Title:** Funding Review and Approval to Merge  
(Agenda Item 4.3)

**Date:** December 5, 2024

**Resolution #:** BOH-2024-12-06

The following motion was read:

**WHEREAS** the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have long recognized the opportunity to strengthen local public health across the combined region through a voluntary merger with funding from the Ministry of Health and direction from the Boards of Health to move forward exploring this since 2020; and,

**WHEREAS** the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit each passed a resolution in March 2024 agreeing to voluntarily merge to strengthen public health across their combined region, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The Government approves the intended merger; and,
- b. The Government commits to providing adequate and appropriate funding to the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit to support the intended merger, including transition costs and business continuity funding; and,
- c. The Board of Health is satisfied that all necessary conditions for a successful merger to strengthen public health have been met; and,

**WHEREAS** the MOH/CEOs for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have undertaken a process of collaboration, negotiation, and joint engagement, along with the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit Boards of Health and senior management teams to ensure the successful implementation of the merger to strengthen public health; and,

**WHEREAS** the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit have received government and Ministry of Health approvals along with adequate and appropriate funding to support the merger as well as articulation that there will be no fiscal impacts to municipalities as a result of the merger; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit approves the voluntary merger with the Timiskaming Health Unit to form the Board of Health for the Northeastern Health Unit;

**FURTHERMORE**, that the Board of Health authorize the MOH/CEO to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Health,

**AND FURTHER**, that this motion be shared with all member municipalities, alpha and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

**MOVED BY:**              **CINDY CAMPBELL**  

**SECONDED BY:**       **MARC DUPUIS**  

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>CARRIED</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>DEFEATED</b>
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Chair – Board of Health	

## Board of Health

Motion Title	Final Merger Approval
Board Meeting Held:	December 4, 2024
Motion moved by:	Casey Owens
Seconded by:	Paul Kelly

**WHEREAS** the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have long recognized the opportunity to strengthen local public health across the combined region through a voluntary merger with funding from the Ministry of Health and direction from the Boards of Health to move forward exploring this since 2020; and,

**WHEREAS** the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit each passed a resolution in March 2024 agreeing to voluntarily merge to strengthen public health across their combined region, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The Government approves the intended merger; and,
- b. The Government commits to providing adequate and appropriate funding to the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit to support the intended merger, including transition costs and business continuity funding; and,
- c. The Board of Health is satisfied that all necessary conditions for a successful merger to strengthen public health have been met; and,

**WHEREAS** the MOH/CEOs for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have undertaken a process of collaboration, negotiation, and joint engagement, along with the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit Boards of Health and senior management teams to ensure the successful implementation of the merger to strengthen public health; and,

**WHEREAS** the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit have received government and Ministry of Health approvals along with adequate and appropriate funding to support the merger as well as articulation that there will be no fiscal impacts to municipalities as a result of the merger; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit approves the voluntary merger with the Porcupine Health Unit to form the Board of Health for the Northeastern Health Unit;

**FURTHERMORE**, that the Board of Health authorize the MOH/CEO to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Health;

**AND FURTHER**, that this motion be shared with all member municipalities, alpha and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

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Motion:    Carried     Defeated

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