

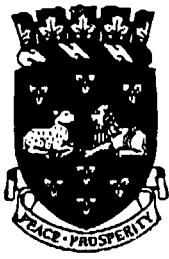
**2. RESOLUTIONS FROM NORTH BAY CITY COUNCIL AND WATERLOO REGIONAL COUNCIL
ON ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SOCIAL ASSISTANCE FRAUD**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AS AMENDED

That the Region of Ottawa-Carleton support the City of North Bay and Region of Waterloo Council resolutions regarding the lifetime ban for social assistance fraud, and notify the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all Ottawa-Carleton M.P.P.'s and all three political party leaders and request that the policy for Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud be withdrawn.

DOCUMENTATION

1. City of North Bay and Region of Waterloo Council resolutions are immediately attached for information.
2. Extract of Draft Minute, Community Services Committee meeting of 4 May 00, follows the report and includes a record of all votes.



February 28, 2000
File: S04-01

**MUNICIPAL AND REGIONAL COUNCILS RESPONSIBLE FOR O.W. CONSOLIDATED
MUNICIPAL SERVICE MANAGEMENT (List Attached)**

Re: Provincial Government's Policy Intentions on Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud

This is to inform you that the Council of the Regional Municipality of Waterloo at its meeting of February 9, 2000, approved the following:

THAT the Regional Municipality of Waterloo take the following action with respect to The Provincial Government's Policy Intentions On Zero Tolerance For Social Assistance Fraud as outlined in Report SS-00-012 dated February 2, 2000:

WHEREAS the Regional Municipality of Waterloo recognizes that the Ontario Works program is an income security program of last resort;

AND WHEREAS the allowances provided to social assistance recipients are inadequate to meet basic family needs of food, shelter and other daily necessities in many cases;

AND WHEREAS there are existing penalties for social assistance fraud;

AND WHEREAS a lifetime ban for social assistance fraud could result in extreme consequences for individuals and families such as loss of accommodation, inability to properly and adequately feed the family unit and breakup of the family unit;

AND WHEREAS the implementation of a lifetime ban policy will lead to broader community issues and consequences and will likely in the long term be more costly to the Region and the Province;

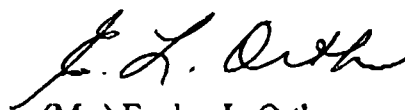
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario be petitioned to not proceed with the implementation of a lifetime ban for individuals convicted of social assistance fraud;

AND THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Premier of the Province of Ontario and the Minister of Community and Social Services;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to all municipal and regional councils who have responsibility for Ontario Works Consolidated Municipal Service Management.

Please find enclosed a copy of Report SS-00-012 for your information.

Yours truly,



(Ms.) Evelyn L. Orth
Regional Clerk

MM/lsf

cc: Hon. Michael D. Harris, Premier of Ontario
Hon. John Baird, Minister of Community and Social Services
W. Pyatt, Commissioner of Social Services

CORPORATE SUPPORT
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February 2, 2000

Hon. Michael D. Harris
Room 281, Main Building
TORONTO, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Sir:

This is Resolution No. 30 which was passed by Council at its Regular Meeting held Monday, January 24, 2000.

Resolution No. 30:

"THAT WHEREAS the Ontario Government has already enacted significant welfare reforms including tighter enforcement of regulations; and

WHEREAS welfare fraud convictions have significantly decreased over the last year; and

WHEREAS the government further intends to enact a policy of "no forgiveness for life" for all persons convicted of welfare fraud; and

WHEREAS this policy will further contribute to child poverty and the quality of life for children of persons convicted of welfare fraud; and

WHEREAS the North Bay City Council does not condone fraud, it deems this to be harsh and unfair treatment of citizens of this province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City of North Bay petition the government to reconsider and withdraw this policy; and

Hon. Michael D. Harris
February 2, 2000
Page 2

2. A copy of this resolution be forwarded to A.M.O., the local D.S.S.A.B., F.O.N.O.M. and the Northern Mayors' Group for consideration."

Yours truly,

Bonny Harrison,
City Clerk.

BH/cjc

cc: Hon. John Baird, Min. of Community & Social Services
A.M.O.
F.O.N.O.M.
D.S.S.A.B.
Northeastern Ontario Municipal Action Group

Extract of Draft Minute
Community Services Committee
4 May 2000

COUNCILLOR'S ITEM

3. RESOLUTIONS FROM NORTH BAY CITY COUNCIL
AND WATERLOO REGIONAL COUNCIL
- Co-ordinator, Community Services Committee report dated 26 April 00

Councillor Byrne suggested that the Association of Canadian Municipalities should be also be contacted concerning zero tolerance for welfare fraud.

Moved by D. Holmes

That the Region of Ottawa-Carleton support the City of North Bay and Region of Waterloo Council resolutions regarding the lifetime ban for social assistance fraud, and notify the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, all Ottawa-Carleton M.P.P.'s, and all three political party leaders that we request the withdrawal of the policy for Zero Tolerance for Social Assistance Fraud.

CARRIED as amended