



## **KENORA DISTRICT MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION**

**SUBJECT:** Highway 17 – Kenora to Thunder Bay

**SUBMITTED BY:** Municipality of Red Lake

**YEAR:** 2022

### **BACKGROUND:**

**WHEREAS** Ontario Provincial Highway 17, between Kenora and Thunder Bay, is a major travel corridor for the residents of northwestern Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** there is a growing concern with the winter travel conditions of the highway; and

**WHEREAS** this winter season, there has been an unprecedented amount of road closures, as many as two (2) road closures in a single day; and

**WHEREAS** residents are so concerned with the safety of the roads, they are cancelling medical appointments as a result of poor winter road conditions; and

**WHEREAS** the roads have become progressively worse to travel; and

**WHEREAS** the highway from Kenora to Thunder Bay continues to be referenced as one of the worst and most dangerous highways in Canada to travel; and

**WHEREAS** in addition to the poor winter highway conditions, there are concerns with the level of training, skill and experience truck drivers have when it comes to driving in accordance with winter road conditions;

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**NOW THEREFORE MAY IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Kenora District Municipal Association** hereby petition the Ministry of Transportation as follows:

- a) to review the winter highway maintenance program of Highway 17 between Kenora and Thunder Bay, such as reducing the snow clearance



time to 8 hour clearance, as opposed to the existing 16 hour clearance regulation.

- b) to review truck driver training for winter highway conditions; and
- c) to review alternative supply chain modes of transportation, such as railway; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Provincial Government consider twinning Highway 17 from Kenora to Thunder Bay to be consistent with the rest of the Trans-Canada Highway, for the safety of our residents and those travelling this portion of highway.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Concurrence \_\_\_\_\_

Concurrence as Amended \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Concurrence \_\_\_\_\_

**CONVENTION ACTION**

Concurrence \_\_\_\_\_

Concurrence as Amended \_\_\_\_\_

Non-Concurrence \_\_\_\_\_