



ONTARIO MUNICIPAL SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION  
L' ASSOCIATION DES SERVICES SOCIAUX DES MUNICIPALITÉS DE L'ONTARIO

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May 20, 2009

Ms. Kirsten Walli  
Secretary, Ontario Energy Board  
Suite 2700, 2300 Yonge Street  
P.O. Box 2319  
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1E4

Dear Ms. Walli:

**Re: EB-2008-0150 OEB Consultation on Energy Issues Relating to Low Income Consumers:  
Nominations on Behalf of the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association to the OEB's Proposed  
Implementation Working Groups**

In response to the Board's May 11 memo on the above, I wish, on behalf of the Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA), to nominate Richard Williams, Commissioner of Community Services for the District of Muskoka, to serve as OMSSA's representative on the LEAP Financial Assistance Working Group.

OMSSA is a not-for-profit organization representing Consolidated Service System Managers and District Social Services Administration Boards across Ontario. Our association works to enhance the capacity of municipalities to plan, manage and deliver quality human services, particularly in the areas of employment, child care, and social housing and homelessness prevention.

As the deliverers of human services in Ontario, OMSSA's members have a fundamental interest in promoting and advocating for supports and benefits for low-income people to ensure that they, like all Ontarians, can contribute in a meaningful way to our economy and society. Working on the front-lines of human service delivery in this province, we have a unique perspective on the economic circumstances currently facing low-income citizens and the impacts that increased in basic energy expenses can have on their ability to escape poverty.

As Commissioner of Community Services in Muskoka District, and as a former OMSSA Board chair, Mr. Williams has long worked to help Ontario's most vulnerable citizens. He oversees a number of support programs for clients and has worked with all district utilities to find workable arrangements in areas of energy poverty. This local familiarity, combined with his broader provincial experience with OMSSA, will be a benefit to the LEAP Financial Assistance Working Group.

Finally, please note that OMSSA is also applying to be considered as eligible for cost awards in this process. Specifically, OMSSA and our members fit within Item 3.03 of the Board's Practice Direction on Cost Awards, since we "primarily represent the direct interests of consumers (e.g. ratepayers) in relation to regulated services," and "primarily represent a public interest relevant to the Board's mandate."

Thank you for the opportunity for OMSSA to participate in this group. I look forward to hearing from you about our nomination of Mr. Williams to represent OMSSA.

Yours sincerely,

Etan Diamond  
Manager, Policy and Research  
ediamond@omssa.com