

**Ministry of  
Municipal Affairs  
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tel.: 416 585-7000  
Fax: 416 585-6470

**Ministère des  
Affaires municipales  
et du Logement**

Bureau du ministre

777, rue Bay, 17e étage  
Toronto ON M5G 2E5  
Tél. : 416 585-7000  
Télééc. : 416 585-6470



Ontario

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19-002135

Mayor Les Gamble, Chair  
Manitoulin-Sudbury District Services Board  
210 Mead Boulevard  
Espanola, ON P5E 1R9

Dear Mayor Gamble:

I would like to thank you and Fern Dominelli, Chief Administrative Officer, for taking the time to meet with me at the 2019 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference in Toronto. Your input and knowledge of local matters are important to me.

I appreciated hearing about the board's need for funding for senior's housing and the limitations that the current funding formula places on the board. I also appreciated you sharing your opinions about the Federal Co-Investment Fund and how the elimination of service level standard reporting can result in increased program dollars for infrastructure.

As discussed during the delegation, I have written to the Federal Government requesting that they streamline their housing processes like the province has done. As suggested at the meeting, service managers could send a letter of support of this request directly to Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0A6.

I firmly believe that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing needs to work collaboratively with Ministries of Health and Long-Term Care, Child, Community and Social Services and Education to better align and fund support services. I will address this matter with my cabinet colleagues. I am also committed to having a dialogue with service managers about support services outside of the Housing Supply Action Plan. The Ministry will provide further information in this regard.

If you or your staff would like to discuss these matters further, ministry staff would be pleased to assist. Please feel free to contact Kathy Horgan, Manager, Local Government and Housing, in the Northern Municipal Services Office at 705-564-6851 or [kathy.horgan@ontario.ca](mailto:kathy.horgan@ontario.ca). You can also contact my Senior Policy Advisor for Municipal Affairs, Alex Barbieri, ([Alex.Barbieri@ontario.ca](mailto:Alex.Barbieri@ontario.ca)) at 416-585-6853.

Once again, thank you for meeting with me at the 2019 ROMA Conference. Working together, I know we will continue to make life better for the people of rural Ontario.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark  
Minister

- c. Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin
- France Gelinias, MPP, Nickel Belt
- John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming-Cochrane