

FONOM

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities

The Honourable Charles Sousa
Minister of Finance
7 Queen's Park Crescent, 7th floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1Y7

November 27, 2013

Dear Minister:

The Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) wishes to thank the Ministry for recognizing the inequity between organized townships and unorganized townships and for their efforts in seeking a solution to ensure the cost of services is equal for all Ontario property owners.

The utilization of services by unorganized townships that organized townships provide such as Highways, Transportation Systems other than Highways, Waste Management, Public Utilities, Culture, Parks, Recreation and Heritage, Economic Development, Police and Fire Protection Services, Ambulance Services, Planning, Public Health Services, Social Housing, Welfare Assistance, and Children's Services has been of great concern to municipalities across the North. As you know, homeowners in unorganized townships pay substantially less in property taxes than homeowners within organized municipalities. This has put a strain on organized municipalities who are required to provide these services with a limited budget.

FONOM acknowledges the progress that has been made in this regard and hopes to work with the Ministry to minimize the current inequity and remove the financial pressure that has been placed on organized townships.

Sincerely,



Alan Spacek, President

c: The Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing