

**Whereas**, the Ontario Public Health Standards require public health units to address substance use and prevent injury through evidence-based health promotion approaches; and

**Whereas**, alcohol is a leading risk factor for injury, chronic disease, disability, and premature death, and contributes to significant healthcare and societal costs; and

**Whereas**, increased availability and visibility of alcohol is associated with increased consumption, normalization of use, and higher rates of alcohol-related harm, particularly among youth and vulnerable populations; and

**Whereas**, alcohol-related harms in the Nipissing-Parry Sound Districts exceed provincial averages and place significant pressure on healthcare systems, emergency services, and municipal resources; and

**Whereas**, municipalities play a key role in shaping local alcohol environments through bylaws and policies and can implement evidence-informed strategies to reduce alcohol-related harms; and

**Whereas**, permitting BYO alcohol events may increase municipal liability, enforcement demands, and risks to community safety without strong controls and adequate capacity;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That**, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit recommend that municipalities within the district not permit Bring-Your-Own alcohol events as part of their municipal alcohol policies.

**Be It Further Resolved That**, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit encourage municipalities to adopt, strengthen, or maintain evidence-informed Municipal Alcohol Policies that limit alcohol availability and prioritize health, safety, and community well-being.

**Be It Further Resolved That**, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit support continued collaboration with municipal partners by providing public health expertise, local data, and guidance on alcohol-related harms and policy development.

**Be It Further Resolved That**, where a municipality elects to allow Bring-Your-Own alcohol event permits, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit asks that approvals be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, and consider the following safeguards:

- i. Exclude family-focused or youth-focussed events where children and youth may be present;
- ii. Restrict locations primarily frequented by children and youth including playgrounds, sports fields, splash pads, skateboard and BMX parks, libraries, and schools, as well as locations that present inherent safety risks, including outdoor pools, natural or outdoor ice rinks, and other bodies of water.
- iii. Exclude events where alcohol use would reasonably increase nuisance, risk, or inequity.

**Be It Further Resolved That,** copies of this resolution be forwarded to member municipalities, Ontario Boards of Health, Victor Fedeli, MPP, Nipissing, Graydon Smith, MPP, Parry Sound-Muskoka, John Vanthof, MPP, Timiskaming-Cochrane, the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, North Bay Police Service, Ontario Provincial Police Detachments of North Bay, West Parry Sound, and Almaguin Highlands, Canadian Mental Health Association North Bay & Area, Canadian Mental Health Association Muskoka-Parry Sound, North Bay Regional Health Centre, West Nipissing General Hospital, Mattawa General Hospital, West Parry Sound Community Health Centre, Hands The Family Help Network, Children's Aid Society Nipissing and Parry Sound.