June 22, 2011

Ms. Kim Sloss
Clerk-Administrator
Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers
11 Birch Lake Road
R.R.#3, Site 1, Box 5
Massey, ON  P0P 1P0

Dear Ms. Sloss:

At its meeting on May 19, 2011, the Sudbury & District Board of Health passed the following motion 29-11 related to cycling paths:

WHEREAS major diseases affecting the quality and length of life of Canadians are linked to physical inactivity; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Standards (2008) require that Boards of Health work with municipalities to support healthy public policies, including policies that enhance the built environment for physical activity and policies to increase road and off-road safety; and

WHEREAS the Sudbury & District Board of Health recognizes that coordinated efforts with municipal governments, public health and other sectors is required in order to develop a comprehensive, community based approach to address safe and sustainable mobility; and

WHEREAS the development of safe cycling paths can reduce crash and injury rates; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers passed a resolution (motion number 2011 - 27) petitioning the Minister of Transportation and the Minister of Northern Development and Mines as well as the Share the Road Cycling Coalition to work with municipalities and First Nations to establish a safe cycling trail from Sault Ste. Marie to Sudbury, tying into other cycling trails that are being developed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health, as a health partner of the Township of Sables-Spanish Rivers, support the development of safe cycling paths between Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie; and

FURTHER THAT copies of this motion be forwarded to all Ontario Boards of Health, provincial government partners and local members of provincial parliament, North Shore Tribal Council, Share the Road Cycling Coalition, the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) and Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM).
Thank you for your attention on this important public health matter.

Sincerely,

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Ontario Boards of Health
Minister of Transportation
Minister of Northern Development Mines & Development
North Shore Tribal Council
Rick Bartolucci, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Michael A. Brown, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Dr. Arlene King, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Siu Mee Cheng, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association
Vonda Croissant, Executive Director, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities
Share the Road Cycling Coalition