

DoKURA

DISTRICT OF KENORA UNINCORPORATED AREAS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

A NON-PROFIT ONTARIO CORPORATION

PRESENTATION TO

GREG RICKFORD

MP – Kenora

BY

JACK McKENZIE, TWOMO REPRESENTATIVE FOR
THE LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH

SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2009

BACKGROUND

Who are we?

For those of you unfamiliar with DoKURA, we are an Incorporated, Non-Profit Corporation under the laws of the Province of Ontario. We were formed fifteen years ago to represent the interests of the over 30,000 permanent and seasonal residents and ratepayers who reside outside the organized municipalities in the Unincorporated Territories of the Kenora District of N.W. Ontario.

Our organization is operated by a volunteer Board of Directors who are elected annually at public meetings. And, we have four elected representatives who serve on the Kenora District Services Board.

With one quarter of all the Provincial Land Tax accounts in Ontario (15,682 out of a total of 60,000) located within the Kenora District, we provide a substantial portion of the local funding that goes towards the operation of the KDSB.

With the revisions to the PLT, our share of the cost of operating the KDSB HAS increased to over 45%, more than TWICE the amount paid by the largest municipality in the District.

Our Association operates entirely on the backs of those who serve as volunteer Directors. Yes, our Association has a small bank account funded by the generous donations from property owners within the District, but no where near the funding required to meet the needs of the four elected representatives who are regularly called upon for help on issues area residents have on matters related not just to those involving the DSSAB.

DoKURA conducted the first vote across the District, in 1996, and elected the first representatives to the then, newly formed Kenora District Services Board. DoKURA has four representatives on this Board, one from each of the four electoral areas our Association defined.

Subsequent elections for representatives to the DSSAB have been the responsibility of the KDSB, however they have down loaded such responsibility to our Association, under contract.

POPULATION/HOUSEHOLD NUMBERS OF KENORA DISTRICT

KENORA DISTRICT SERVICES BOARD MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS

- The make up of the Kenora District
- The District of Kenora encompasses some 404,087 square kilometers, or approximately 45% of the land area of the entire Province of Ontario.
- The following key data has been taken from the 2006 census.

<u>Municipality</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Area (sq. km.)</u>	<u>Dwellings</u>
Dryden	8,195	65	3,283
Ear Falls	1,153	331	466
Ignace	1,431	73	589
Kenora	15,838	211	6,251
Machin	978	289	403
Pickle Lake	479	255	180
Red Lake	4,526	610	1,750
Sioux Lookout	5,183	379	1,923
Sioux Narrows – Nestor Falls	672	1,222	279
MUNICIPAL TOTALS	37,794	3,435	15,124
UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY	23,041	400,652	15,732
DISTRICT TOTALS	60,855	404,087	30,856

PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL FUNDING BY MEMBERS OF KDSB

	PRE PLT PLT REFORM	WITH REFORM
UNINCORPORATED (4 TWOMOs)	31.1%	45.2%
Kenora	26.7%	21.3%
Dryden	15.5%	11.7%
Sioux Lookout	9.0%	7.0%
Sioux Narrows/ Nestor Falls	5.9%	4.9%
Red Lake	5.8%	4.9%
Machin	2.7%	2.2%
Ignace	1.6%	1.2%
Ear Falls	1.3%	1.0%
Pickle Lake	0.5%	0.4%

LAKE OF THE WOODS NORTH AREA

Redditt Local Services Board

Minaki Local Services Board

East Long Pine Road Association

Cygnet Lake Road Association

Engineer Lake Road Association

N. E. Bay Subdivision Road Association

Sturgeon Road Association

Ingolf Local Roads Board

Laclu Local Roads Board

Pellatt #2 Local Roads Board

Pickerel Lake Local Roads Board

Redditt Local Roads Board

War Eagle Lake Local Roads Board

Minaki Local Roads Board

Sherwood Lake Roads Board

Gordon Lake Local Roads Board

Tannis Lake Local Roads Board

Ena Lake Local Roads Board

McConnell Lake Local Roads Board

Pellatt Community Center

LAKE OF THE WOODS SOUTH AREA

Spruce Lake Road Association

Dogtooth Lake Road Association

Lake of Two Mountains Road Association

Paddy Lake Road Association

Group Four - Ratuski Point Road Association

Gold Pointe Road Association

Welcome Channel Road Association

Hawk Lake Road Association

Northern Peninsula Road Association

Inglis Lake Local Roads Board

McKenzie Portage Local Roads Board

Bigstone Bay Local Roads Board

Blindfold Lake Local Roads Board

Kendall Inlet Local Roads Board

Kenricia Local Roads Board

McCallum Point Local Roads Board

Rush Bay – Woodchuck Bay Local Roads Board

Storm Bay Local Roads Board

Red Pine Ridge Local Roads Board

Burma Road Road Association

West Longbow Lake Road Association

Washagamis Bay Cottagers Association

OXDRIFT AREA

Snake Bay Road Association

Southshore Road Association

Local Roads Board of Wabigoon Redvers West

Statute Labor Board of Colenso, Redvers East & Wabigoon East

Local Roads Board of Wabigoon South East

East Cedar Lake Road Association

Local Roads Board of Aubrey East

Local Roads Board of Britton Twp.

Local Roads Board of Eton

Local Roads Board of Ghost Lake

Local Roads Board of Mutrie

Local Roads Board of Rowell

Local Roads Board of Rugby

Local Roads Board of Southworth

Local Roads Board of McIntosh

Local Roads Board of Melgund

Local Roads Board of Van Horne

Local Roads Board of Zealand 3

Local Roads Board of Zealand 1

Local Roads Board of Wainwright

Wabigoon Local Services Board

Local Services Board of Melgund

Oxdrift Recreation Association

LAC SEUL AREA

Hopperstad Road Association

Van Patter Road Association

Snake Falls Road Association

Chicago Point Campers Association

Ear Falls – Perrault Falls Outfitters Association

Pakwash Camp Owners Association

District Overview

AREA	ROADS BOARDS	ROAD ASSOCIATIONS	LSB's AND LOCAL GROUPS
Lake of the Woods North	12	5	3
Lake of the Woods South	10	11	1
Oxdrift	17	3	3
Lac Seul	0	3	3
T O T A L S	39	22	10

AREAS OF CONCERN

- 1 - Meeting of DOKURA Board with MP
- 2 - Notices of grant applications to all in Incorporated areas, not just Local Roads Boards.

Infrastructure Grant applications went just to Local Roads Boards. Local Road Associations etc., were left out of the process as they were not informed.

Need to contact DOKURA with such information so DOKURA can get information out to ALL concerned.

- 3 - GAS TAX

Lack of confirmation that four year extension of program and subsequent announcement that the Gas Tax rebate program has been made permanent, applies to Local Roads Boards.

Spring 2005 with Liberals still in power, announcement of \$224,000,000 to improve roads. AMO negotiating to handle the distribution of funds within Ontario.

DOKURA organized a letter writing campaign involving Local Roads Boards, Local Services Boards and Local Road Associations from all Unincorporated Areas of Ontario asking “Where is our share”.

July 2005 – Federal Government “Finds” and extra \$5,800,000 for Local Roads Boards in Ontario.

Unfortunately, they forgot that AMO had

no interest in handling funds for the Unincorporated Areas, hence no delivery agent in place.

Ontario formally says “NO” to being involved in the distribution of funds to the Unincorporated Areas.

DOKURA makes presentation to Ottawa offering to be distribution agency for all of Ontario’s Unincorporated Areas. In addition, another letter writing campaign undertaken asking Minister to help in getting funds flowing to Unincorporated.

August 2005 – DOKURA meets with Lisa Berthier of L. Cannon’s office in Ottawa. Andrew Walasek formally replies.

November 2006 – DOKURA meets with Andrew Walasek in Ottawa.

December 15/06 – DOKURA has another meeting with Walasek in Ottawa along with a Claude Blanchette.

March 19/07 – Announcement of extension of program for an additional four years.

June 2007 – announcement of deal with Ontario to handle distribution of funds for first five years – MTO to Roads Boards only.

June 29/07 – telephone conversation with Walasek regarding extension.

Promises, promises, promises, but no reply.

April 2008 – Gas Tax rebate program made permanent.

August 2008 – DOKURA representatives

Penny Lucas and Jack McKenzie in Ottawa and try to meet with Andrew Walasek – but meeting refused. Directed to a Regan Watts who is supposed to be handling matter, however Watts not available for meeting, and subsequently advises that he knows nothing about the matter.

December 2008 – new proposal to new Minister – John Baird, with a copy to your office – Kelly Williams.

February 2009 – reply from your office but not a word from John Baird.

September 2009 – Matter still up in the air.

Road Associations still left out and Local Roads Boards and Local Services Boards still waiting for confirmation of extension.

4 - NEXUS Card

Canada/USA joint border crossing program.

Promoted for Lake of the Woods – North West Angle area.

USA Accepts but not Canada.

Need to bring Canada on side.

Also, need to expand Customs Phones to other areas of the Lake of the Woods – ie – Oak Island and Rainy River areas.

5 - DOKURA Funding

Many matters come up that involve Unincorporated Areas, but little or no notification to residents by DOKURA due to lack of funding.

Need for grants to DOKURA to enable it to do a better job of communicating.

6 - Local Housing Needs

KDSB Housing Needs Study.

Need for more housing in this area and need for funding to KDSB to provide same.

7 - Census Data

Poor job in Unincorporated Areas.

Need for more accurate information.

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A NON-PROFIT ONTARIO CORPORATION

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Kenora District Services Board Representatives

Terms of office expire 12/31/10

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Lake of the Woods South

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