

January 19, 2022

Re: Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding (Mayor, G. Smith)

At its meeting of December 22, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Bracebridge ratified motions 21-GC-317, regarding the Support for Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) Receive Increased and Sustainable Provincial Funding, as follows:

“WHEREAS the Muskoka Parry Sound Sexual Assault Services (MPSSAS) has provided prevention education, advocacy and support for survivors of recent or historical sexual violence in the area since 1993;

AND WHEREAS the number of survivors needing access to crisis counselling and long-term therapy programs has multiplied four (4) times since 1993;

AND WHEREAS ongoing underfunding of MPSSAS and the sexual assault services sector has reduced the number of resources available to provide these services due to highly specialized skill requirements that are unmatched by low wages and benefits relative to other mental health funded positions;

AND WHEREAS the current COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in isolated survivors, unable to leave abusive situations due to pressures on housing and shelters, requiring the services of MPSSAS;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT increased and sustainable provincial funding for MPSSAS and other sexual assault services centres be supported for priority consideration by the Provincial Government and its agencies.”

In accordance with Council's direction I am forwarding you a copy of the resolution for you reference.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide any additional clarification in this regard.

1000 Taylor Court
Bracebridge, ON
P1L 1R6 Canada