



Northwestern Ontario Common Voice Initiative

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Chair: Iain Angus

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March 26, 2008

Mr. William Blower
The District of Kenora Unincorporated Ratepayers Association
PO Box 79
Red Lake, ON POV 2M0

and

Mr. Fred Mueller
Thunder Bay Unincorporated Ratepayers Association
RR #1
Kaministiquia, ON POT 1X0

Dear Mr. William Blower and Mr. Fred Mueller,

On **Friday, May 2, 2008** the first meeting of the members of **Common Voice Northwest** will be held at the **Prince Arthur Hotel** in Thunder Bay and the Unincorporated Ratepayers Associations are invited to send one delegate(s) to represent your two organizations.

Common Voice Northwest is an initiative of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce and the Northwestern Ontario Development Network and is designed to create a single focus for the needs of the Northwest.

On February 21st and 22nd delegates from 15 organizations met in Thunder Bay to take the next to final steps in creating a Common Voice for the Northwest. Attached you will find the summary of those two days, including the list of those who were in attendance, and more importantly, a proposed framework of the organization.

As part of the two day discussion, the list of organizations that are to initially make up the initial members of Common Voice Northwest was finalized. I am pleased to advise you that Unincorporated Ratepayers Associations are eligible to have one.

Organizations are asked send delegates with the authority and permission to make binding decisions on behalf of their organization regarding Common Voice Northwest. Decision items on the agenda of May 2nd will include the following:

- 1) Finalization of the vision, mission, and values of Common Voice Northwest
- 2) Confirmation of the name Common Voice Northwest
- 3) Consideration and adoption of a constitution and by-laws and approving them for submission for incorporation status
- 4) Election of a Board or Leadership Team to guide the work of Common Voice Northwest
- 5) Identification of the transition steps from the Common Voice Steering Committee to the Common Voice Northwest Leadership Team

Please advise Common Voice Northwest facilitator, Paul Wolfe at **Ph: 1-888-702-6995** of your attendance at the May 2nd meeting. When replying, please confirm the names of the permanent delegate(s) your organization will be sending. We would ask that you respond no later than April 25, 2008.

The meeting will be held on **Friday, May 2, 2008**
at the **Prince Arthur Hotel**, 17 N. Cumberland St., Thunder Bay, Ontario
from **8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.**

Should you require further information please contact the undersigned or the Common Voice Northwest office. I look forward to seeing you or your representative(s) at this exciting and significant meeting.

Sincerely,



Iain Angus
Chair, Common Voice Northwest Steering Committee

Encls.