



# LOOPSTRA NIXON LLP

BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS

**Quinto M. Annibale\***

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October 16, 2014

## **By E-Mail**

Mayor Peter McIsaac, Deputy Mayor Todd White and Members of Council  
Municipality of Powassan ("Powassan")  
P.O. Box 250  
466 Main Street  
Powassan, Ontario  
P0H 1Z0

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

## **Re: Powassan and Area Family Health Team**

I am the solicitor for the Powassan and Area Family Health Team (the "PAAFHT"). I have been asked by my client to review the events surrounding the PAAFHT's efforts to build a new facility for its operations in partnership with the Municipality of Powassan and those surrounding the creation and governance of the PAAFHT. I am a solicitor with 27 years' municipal law experience. This is one of the reasons my client has engaged me. The other is because of my extensive experience in not-for-profit governance matters, especially in the health care field. A copy of my short biography is attached as Appendix "1" to this letter. You will please also note that I have served on the boards of many health related not-for-profit corporations, including a Community Health Centre and a Hospital Corporation Board. As a result, I have an unusual expertise in both municipal law and not-for-profit health care governance.

I have completed my review of the documentation that was provided to me by my client and as a result, my client has asked me to write to you to request that the Deputy Mayor immediately cease and desist in spreading misinformation about the Powassan and Area Family Health Team, its governance and the proposed facility project. My client has been advised in no uncertain terms by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care ("MOHLTC"), that failure to proceed with the currently approved new build (See plans in Appendix "2") in Powassan by March 31, 2015 will result in a loss of funding for that project. The Ministry has also advised in no uncertain terms, that there are no funds available for the expansion of the existing municipal building, as suggested in Deputy Mayor White's Oct 6, 2014 email reply to Anna Gibson-Olajos and all of the election candidates, and as also suggested in the Council resolution of January 7, 2014 and



the Mayor's letter of January 8, 2014 (see Appendix "3" to this letter). Any proposal to move into a facility other than the proposed facility, as the Deputy Mayor seems to be suggesting in his email of Oct 6, 2014 will start the lengthy MOHLTC approval process from scratch, with no guarantee that it will be approved and will also likely result in a facility with significantly less space, if a facility is built at all, which is unlikely.

In undertaking my review I have reviewed the various correspondence between my client's counsel, Mr. John D'Agostino and the municipality's counsel, Mr. Ed Veldboom. I have also reviewed the FHT Development Grant Agreement, a number of council resolutions related to the matter (including those referred to above), various correspondence between the MOHLTC and the parties and various press accounts and letters to the editor in the local press. I have been asked to address the issues listed below, which I have now done and my conclusions are noted below each heading. My clients have taken the additional step and expense of a second legal opinion to address the issues the Deputy Mayor repeatedly brings up and to be sure that their actions were proper every step of the way. For the reasons that follow, I can say unequivocally that my clients have acted properly in every respect. In undertaking my review I was asked to consider the following issues:

1. Statements and Actions of the Deputy Mayor;
2. Loss of an opportunity and municipal support for health services in the Region;
3. Support from the rest of the Community;
4. Governance Concerns and Municipal participation in the PAAFHT;
5. Conclusion and Request

My opinion with respect to each of these matters is as follows:

### **1. Statements and Actions of the Deputy Mayor**

I find the statements and actions of the Deputy Mayor to be deplorable. I simply cannot believe some of the statements made by him in the press and in e-mail exchanges. My client wants the spread of misinformation about the Family Health Team, its board and staff to stop. I have advised my client that some of the statements made by the Deputy Mayor constitute actionable libel, but my client has decided that it would not serve the larger public interest of the initiative to pursue an action against him at this time. Taken in isolation, these actions are completely unexplainable and wholly destructive to the public interest. I have never seen a politician embark on such a campaign of terror in the 27 years that I have practiced municipal law. Most of the smaller municipalities that I act for take extraordinary measures to attract and retain physicians to their municipality. These efforts include recruitment at medical schools by municipal staff, doctors "job fairs", providing financial incentives in the form of subsidized rent, cash (or both) advertising and marketing to the medical profession and similar efforts. Based on what I have been told, Powassan's Deputy Mayor seems determined to undermine and thwart the ability of the whole region to recruit and retain physicians and other health care professionals.



We have evidence that the Deputy Mayor made multiple attempts to gain a personal economic interest in the current building proposal. By doing so, the Deputy Mayor has breached the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, R.S.O. 1990 (c. M.50) (the “MCIA”) when he voted on my client’s proposal, in my opinion. My client has also been told by more than one source that the Deputy Mayor also tried to obtain or actually has a personal economic interest in a different medical clinic with a southern Ontario developer in another location in Powassan. If this is true, the Deputy Mayor would be in a further breach of the MCIA. The Deputy Mayor should be asked to state for the record whether these statements are true, and if they are, he should recuse himself from any further involvement in council votes and discussion on the matter, in this current term of council or any future elected position. In any event, the Deputy Mayor would also be in breach of his fiduciary duty to council by having taken these actions.

Attached as Appendix “4” is an affidavit from Gary Eide, a resident and local businessman which sets out his account of the attempts that were made by Deputy Mayor White to benefit personally from this project.

The actions of the deputy mayor would, in my opinion, expose him to personal liability as well. These actions constitute intentional interference with contract. If as a result of these actions, my client loses the opportunity to build a new building, then I have advised my client that it could pursue an action against the Deputy Mayor personally. My client hopes that it does not come to that.

I would ask that the Deputy Mayor cease and desist from any acts such as those described above and any further interference in the Family Health Team facility and governance and that Council not tolerate those acts.

On September 18, 2012 Powassan Council passed the following resolution (#2012-379 Moved by D. Britton Seconded by: T. White):

“Whereas healthcare is a vital component of the quality of life and the future of all residents of our community; and  
Whereas the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) awarded Powassan and Area a Family Health Team (PAAFHT) in 2010; and,  
Whereas the PAAFHT recognizes the Municipality of Powassan has for two decades provided financial support for the operating costs and rent subsidy for the physicians practicing in the Powassan Medical Centre; and,  
Whereas the existing Powassan Medical Center has been deemed unsuitable for expansion to meet our community’s future healthcare needs and the additional staff and physicians required to provide these services; and,  
Whereas the MOHLTC has approved funding for the PAAFHT portion (approximately 50%) of the proposed new facility lease and operating expenses (property taxes, utilities, office cleaning and maintenance) for 10 years; and,  
Whereas the Powassan and Area Family Health Team requires an ongoing financial commitment from the Municipality in order to proceed with the next legal steps



(including the sublease agreement with the Municipality) which will lead to the construction of this building in 2013; and,

Whereas the board of the Powassan and Area Family Health Team requests that Council agree in principle to sublease from the PAAFHT the remaining portion of the building (approximately 50%);

Therefore, be it resolved that the Council of the Municipality of Powassan agrees in principle to sublease for ten years approximately 50% of the Powassan and Area Family Health Team space which includes the lease and operating costs (property taxes, utilities, office cleaning and maintenance)”

This position was subsequently reversed by your Council (see Appendix “3”).

This new facility is too important to the future health and well being of the Region’s residents to have it held hostage for political or possibly even personal self interest. Therefore, my client asks that the new Council reverse its current position and restore the original approval quoted above.

## **2. Loss of an opportunity and municipal support for health services in the Region**

My client has been advised by the MOHLTC that it is very close to losing the approval that it has for the new building in Powassan. If PAAFHT cannot clearly demonstrate to the MOHLTC that the building will commence before March 31, 2015 then the funding approval will lapse and will not be included in the next budget (see email from MOHLTC dated April 8, 2014 to PAAFHT attached as Appendix “5” to this letter.) If this occurs, then my client (not to mention the whole region) will suffer a significant loss of opportunity. The Ministry has also advised that there is currently no capital funding available for a retrofit of the existing municipal building, as was suggested by Council as an alternative to the current new build proposal. This information was shared with Mayor Peter McIsaac and should be known to Deputy Mayor Todd White. My client wishes the Deputy Mayor to refrain from misleading people concerning the facts about the PAAFHT facility project (which he has done as recently as Oct 16, 2014). The path to the proper resolution of this matter therefore is quite clear: The Deputy Mayor should recuse himself from any further discussion about the PAAFHT proposed facility project, clarify the error of his communications about the facility project and the newly elected Council should enter into immediate negotiations with PAAFHT and its physicians on options to proceed with this new facility.

For the record, it is quite clear from my client’s discussions with the MOHLTC that based on the current funding model, the Ministry will not fund 100% of the premises cost (lease or build) as has been suggested by Deputy Mayor White and others. The MOHLTC will fund only 50% of this cost, regardless of whether the proposal is to expand the existing clinic, add on to the municipal building or build a new facility.

Equally untrue are the statements made by Deputy Mayor White last night at the all candidates meeting and contained in his election materials that a facility can be built at no cost to taxpayers.

To be clear, there is no money available from the province to build onto the existing municipal building. My client confirmed all of these facts as recently as today with the MOHLTC which was shown some of this campaign literature. The Ministry is as perplexed as we are about these incorrect statements made by the Deputy Mayor.

Apart from the financial loss which will be suffered by my client if the new build does not proceed, there is the greater loss to the entire region of the ability to offer further expanded health care services. The MOHLTC has made it clear that if this facility approval lapses, any future approvals, if forthcoming, will be for significantly less space than the current approval. The collateral damage being suffered by the regional community as a result of the bully pulpit campaign of the Deputy Mayor is that health care in the Powassan area will be hurt for a long time to come. The controversy being created by the Deputy Mayor's actions are deterring new physicians and other medical professionals from joining the PAAFHT. The immediate lack of space at the current facility is already directly affecting the ability of the PAAFHT to bring in additional medical professionals and offer a full continuum of interdisciplinary health team care. (ie hiring Registered Nurses, for additional hours, new doctors, medical students and having group appointment and group sessions at different hours for patient convenience).

In addition, a new facility with space for additional providers and state of the art equipment are required in order to attract young doctors (the lifeblood and future of health care). That can best be done in a new facility, which, as this one is that, is designed for collaborative interdisciplinary practice. Without Council's commitment to this this new facility project, this will all be in jeopardy. It is time for Powassan Council to do the right thing.

### **3. Support from the rest of the Community**

To demonstrate community support, I have included the letter from the doctors who support the new facility project (see Appendix "6"). My client has also approached the North Bay Regional Health Centre Foundation who had agreed to pursue a partnership toward assisting my client in fundraising for the new PAAFHT building. As you can see from the email that is attached as Appendix "7", they will only embark on fundraising with them if the municipality demonstrates its support for the fundraising initiative. Accordingly, the newly elected Powassan council should enter into immediate negotiations to find a solution to move this facility forward and not lose the MOHLTC funding for this project.

### **4. Governance Concerns and Municipal participation in the PAAFHT**

The comments by Mr. Veldboom in his December 12, 2013 letter about board size are, in my opinion, a red herring. The Deputy Mayor has made the same claims and has brought this up again in a public forum in his email of October 6, 2014. The board has the right to increase its membership over time as it sees fit. I would like to point out the following however. The Ministry of Health has confirmed to us, several times, verbally and in writing, that it is satisfied with the manner in which the Grant was used, with the governance of the corporation as it exists today and it has stated that it considers the funding agreement to have been fulfilled in its



entirety (see Appendix “8” to this letter). As far as my client is concerned, this settles completely and finally, the issue of whether there has been non-compliance with the funding agreement. Your interference in the governance matters of my client continues to create issues for board recruitment. Please cease and desist from interfering in this independent organization and its governance.

## 5. Conclusion and Request

To conclude, the window for taking advantage of government funding for a new building for the PAAFHT is quickly closing. The MOHLTC has confirmed that the PAAFHT must commit to build this 7,400 ft facility by March 31, 2015 at the very latest in order to keep its current budget approval. If this is not done, then the government approval will lapse and the PAAFHT will have lost the chance to build this new facility. The new facility will only work if the newly elected Powassan Council sits down with PAAFHT to find a way forward. If this is not done, the provincial funding for the facility will disappear and health care in Powassan and area will have been dealt an irreparable blow. My client is requesting and I strongly recommend that the soon to be elected Mayor and Council show the leadership needed and sit down immediately upon taking office to negotiate to make this very important initiative happen.

Yours truly,

LOOPSTRA NIXON LLP

Per:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Q. Annibale'.

Quinto M. Annibale

QMA/rs

cc Powassan and Area Family Health Team  
cc John D'Agostino  
cc Ed Veldboom

### Appendices:

1. Brief Biography – Quinto Annibale
2. Plans for new proposed medical facility
3. Letter from Mayor Peter McIsaac re: FHT Lease – Jan 8, 2014
4. Affidavit of Gary Raymond Eide
5. Email from Sherri Cassin, MOHLTC re: PAAFHT facility – April 16, 2014
6. Letter from Maple Ridge Family Health Organization physicians to Powassan – April 14, 2014
7. Email from Tammy Morrison, NBRHC Foundation – April 22, 2014
8. Letter from Phil Graham to Ed Veldboom – Dec. 30, 2013



## **Appendix 1: Brief Biography – Quinto Annibale**

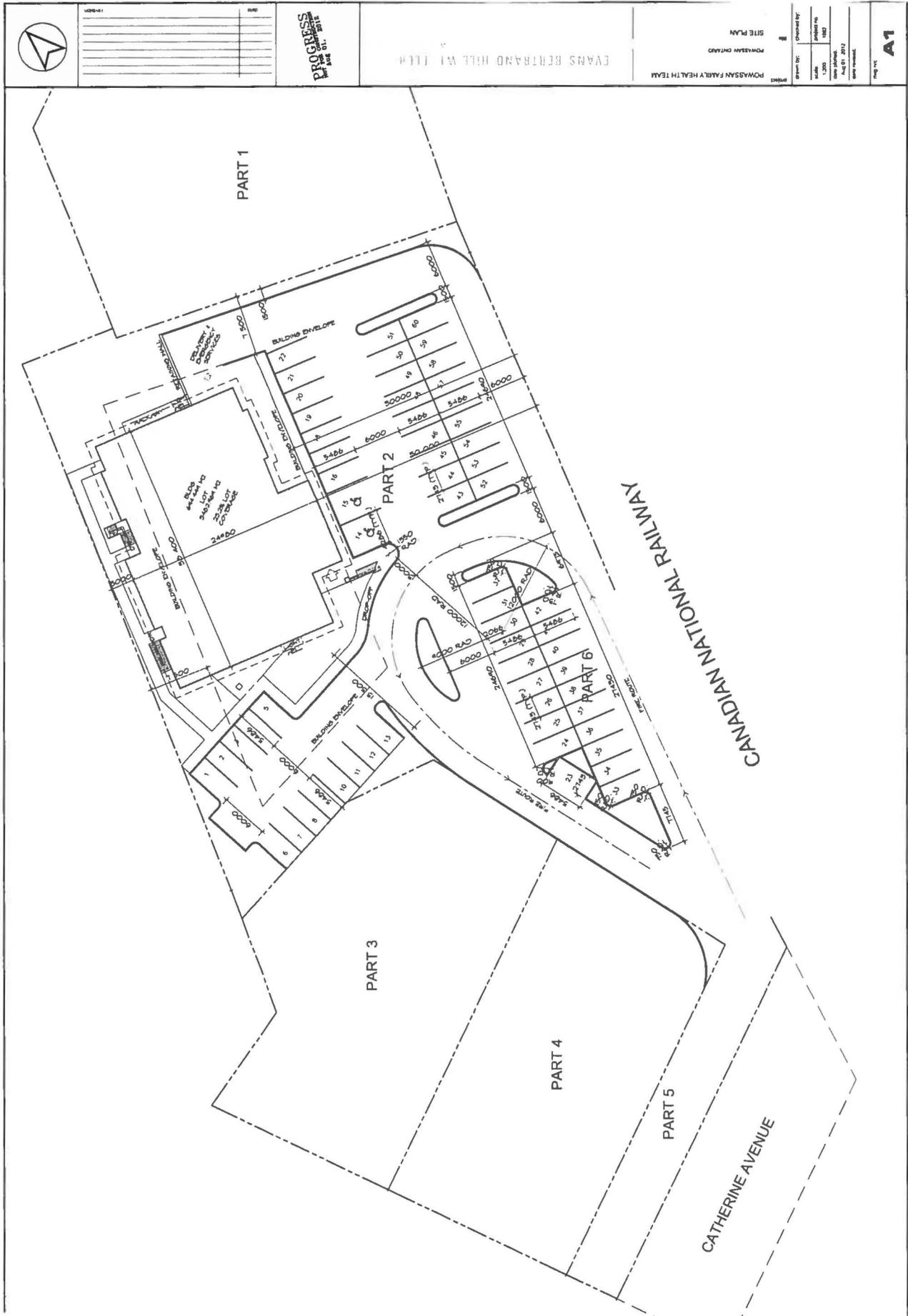
Quinto Annibale, a resident of Vaughan, is a partner with the Toronto law firm Loopstra Nixon LLP ([www.loopstranixon.com](http://www.loopstranixon.com)), practicing in the areas of municipal, land use planning and development law. Quinto received his Bachelor of Arts from McMaster University and his LL.B. from Queen's University.

He is a former member of the City of Etobicoke Committee of Adjustment, a past executive member of the Municipal Law section of the Ontario Bar Association, past Vice Chair of the International Municipal Lawyers Association (Canadian Section) and for over 15 years, he was the editor of the OBA Municipal Section Newsletter. Quinto is the author of the Canada Law Book text “Municipal Lands: Acquisition, Management and Disposition” and has written two chapters in the well-known Canada Law Book Text “Anger and Honsberger – Law of Real Property”.

Quinto is active in his community, serving as a past member of the Board of Trustees of York Central Hospital, a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Vaughan Health Campus of Care, the Vaughan Health Care Foundation, the Vaughan Health Seniors Corporation and the Vaughan Community Health Centre. He also serves as a Director and Secretary of Villa Colombo Vaughan, a long-term care facility located in Kleinberg, Ontario as Chair of the Board of Governors of Villanova College in King City and as a Director of the Vaughan Arts Centre of Excellence. He is President of the Carol Annibale Ovarian Cancer Foundation, a charity he founded and runs in memory of his late wife, Carol Annibale.

Quinto has completed the Institute of Corporate Directors certificate for not-for-profit corporations at the Rotman School of Business.

Appendix 2: Plans for New Proposed Medical Facility



Drawing name: 125100 0027 Proposed Part 6 Building and Parking Lot A1.dwg, 10/12/12 10:00 AM





**Appendix 3: Letter from Mayor Peter McIsaac re: FHT Lease – Jan 8, 2014**

The Municipality of  
**Powassan**

466 Main Street  
P.O. Box 250  
Powassan, Ontario P0H 1Z0

Tel: (705) 724-2813  
Fax: (705) 724-5533

info@powassan.net  
www.powassan.net

January 8, 2014

JAN 10 2014

Mrs. Sheila Latour, President  
Powassan & Area Family Health Team  
8 King Street, PO Box 39  
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0

Dear Mrs. Latour:

RE: Lease Agreement for proposed new Medical Centre Building

After careful consideration, financial deliberations and legal consultation, the Council has decided to not participate with a lease agreement for a new Medical Centre.

It is understood that there is a need for more offices for the various additional services now being offered by the Powassan and Area Family Health Team. Council is interested in expanding the existing Medical Centre Building. The Municipality is committed to continuing a Landlord/Tenant relationship in the existing medical centre with the Powassan and Area Family Health Team.

Until the expansion is complete, Council suggests that the Family Health Team explore satellite offices to help resolve congestion in our current building.

We welcome discussion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Peter McIsaac  
Mayor



**Appendix 4: Affidavit of Gary Eide**

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**AFFIDAVIT OF GARY RAYMOND EIDE**

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I, Gary Raymond Eide, of the Municipality of Powassan (“Powassan”), in the Province of Ontario, MAKE OATH AND SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I am a co-owner of a family based enterprise that operates a business in Powassan at 15 King Street East. I am also a co-owner (along with my brother, Steven Eide) of a parcel of vacant land adjacent to 15 King Street East and the Eide residence. The vacant land has no municipal address. For the purposes of this affidavit, I refer to our family business as the “Family Business” and the vacant land as the “Development Property”.
2. The Development Property was selected as the new location where a new medical arts facility would be built to house the Powassan and Area Family Health Team (“PAAFHT”). I understand that the Development Property was one of three parcels of land that were considered by PAAFHT.
3. Shortly after becoming aware that the Development Property was selected by PAAFHT, Deputy Mayor Todd White (“Deputy Mayor White”) approached me outside of council chambers and suggested that I partner with him in the Development Property. I indicated that my brother and I were not interested in partnering with anyone for this project.



4. A few days later at the “Hawk and Fox”, Deputy Mayor White and I had another discussion. Deputy Mayor White asked me questions about the construction costs for the Development Property including how we arrived at the price per square foot we had quoted to build the complex on the Property. I advised Deputy Mayor White that we had met many of the parties including the physicians; architects; our builder; and many of our suppliers to help us arrive at our price estimate. Deputy Mayor White indicated to me that he was aware of an “out of town” developer who had purchased the old “Windsor Hotel” property on the corner of Main and King Streets in Powassan and that he understood that PAAFHT had already finalized a contract with the “out of town” developer to construct the new medical facility on his site and at nearly double the cost of what we had estimated.
  
5. In a further encounter at the Hawk and Fox a few days later, Deputy Mayor White peppered me with more questions about the Development Property. He asked me if I would consider him as a partner in the development of the Development Property or if I was willing to sell the Development Property. He kept telling me that he ran the numbers and figured it was going to be a very lucrative lease agreement. I advised Deputy Mayor White that we were not looking for any partners in this family project.
  
6. Immediately after the discussions referred to in paragraph 5 above, I talked with my brother and business partner (Steven Eide) about my conversation with Deputy Mayor White. Steven indicated to me that he too was approached by Deputy Mayor White to partner with him.

7. On or about August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Deputy Mayor White called me on my personal cell phone while I was at the University of Toronto's UTSC administration building in Toronto. I was there registering my daughter for the upcoming school year. With me at the time of the phone call referred to above were my daughter, Sarah Eide, my wife Sylvia Eide, and my daughter's friend, Ethan Chapman. During the phone call Deputy Mayor White ranted and raved about PAAFHT; that my brother and I had better watch out or the "out of town" developer would take us all down if we stood in his way. He kept insisting on meeting with me regarding the proposed development of the Property. I repeated that I was not interested in meeting with him. Deputy Mayor White kept insisting that PAAFHT had no business or authority to retender the project because they had already contracted with the "out of town" developer.
8. A few days after the phone call referred to in paragraph 6 above, I was again approached by Deputy Mayor White -- this time he asked how much it would take for me to sell the Property to the "out of town" developer. I re-confirmed that the property was not for sale and that we were not interested in partnering with anyone. My brother Steven later told me that he had a similar conversation with Deputy Mayor White earlier that day.
9. Having had enough of the unethical and inappropriate behaviour demonstrated by Deputy Mayor White, I wrote and delivered a letter dated May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to Mayor Peter McIsaac and Council to formally complain about the inappropriate and unethical discussions I was having with Deputy Mayor White. A copy of the letter of

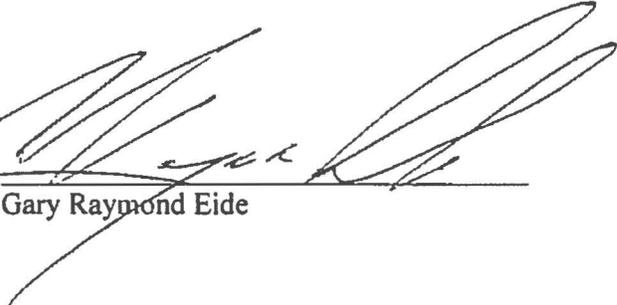


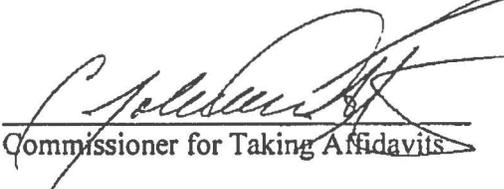
May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 is attached hereto as Exhibit "A". I have yet to receive a reply from the Mayor or anyone else on council for that matter.

10. As a developer, I am considering locations outside of Powassan for future investment and development. I am also considering expressing my concerns to my colleagues regarding Deputy Mayor White's behaviour and his handling this matter. I verily believe that Deputy Mayor White was in a conflict of interest in all of the encounters he had with me in regard to the Property and that he should not have tried to make "side deals" with my family and I while he was considering this matter raised before council and while purporting to represent the municipality's interests, and quite possibly, the interests of the "out of town" developer.

11. I make the above statements under oath for no improper purpose knowing them to be true and correct.

Sworn before me at the )  
City of North Bay, in the )  
Province of Ontario, on this )  
15<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2014. )

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Raymond Eide

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Taking Affidavits



Gary Eide  
15 King Street East  
Powassan Ontario  
P0H 1Z0  
705-498-0125

May 26, 2014

This is exhibit 4A<sup>1</sup>  
to the Affidavit of  
*Gary Eide*  
Sworn before me this  
15<sup>th</sup> day of  
October, 2014  
*[Signature]*  
A Commissioner, etc.

**Mayor Peter McIsaac and Council**

The Municipality of Powassan  
466 Main Street P.O. Box 250  
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0

Re: Councilor Todd White

The behavior of Mr. White when representing the Municipality of Powassan as Deputy Mayor is in my opinion unethical. I have been approached by this individual out side of the council chambers in regards to my property under development for the proposed "New Medical Center" to partner up with him, or at the various least an enquiry from him as to what I was willing to sell him my property for. For which I don't know if he was serious or joking

I was called by this individual on my personal cell phone (of which I have detailed billing) late last summer as I was attending a post secondary institute in Toronto with my daughter, wife , and friend, and was somewhat surprised that he demanded a meeting with him in regards to the proposed Medical Building.

Mr. Mayor your Deputy Mayor needs to be reigned in. His behavior has continually escalated since late last summer in regards to issues surrounding the proposed new medical center to the point where this project is likely to fail.

As a developer I may have to look outside the Powassan area for future investment as well as express concern with my colleagues as to any development in Powassan due to the behavior of your Councilor .

Sincerely

Gary Raymond Eide BBM

**Appendix 5: Email from Sherri Cassin, MOHLTC re: PAAFHT facility – April 16 2014****Anna Gibson-Olajos**

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**From:** Cassin, Sherri (MOHLTC) <Sherri.Cassin@ontario.ca>  
**Sent:** April-16-14 1:36 PM  
**To:** Anna Gibson-Olajos  
**Subject:** Ministry / FHT Conference Call Today

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Hi Anna

In follow up to our meeting this morning, I wanted to outline a couple of items we discussed.

1. New Build – approval by the ministry to have a local developer construct a new facility was granted a couple of years ago and to date, construction on said facility has not commenced. The barrier identified at this point comes from the Municipality withdrawing their commitment to fund the physician cost of the new construction. As no movement has been made to date, the future of the project is in jeopardy. We have agreed to continue to identify the new build in the FHTs 2014/15 fiscal year after which, if no signs of commencement has been identified, we will have to withdraw this approval. This would not bar the team from approaching the ministry with a new space funding application for consideration. It is important to keep in mind too that our current space funding guidelines may identify the need for less square footage than what had been approved previously depending on the proposal submitted.
2. Allocation of Space - we have reviewed the current space allocation approved at the Powassan Medical Clinic (1,774 sq ft) and at the Astorville site (330 sq ft) and it confirms that the team is fairly well resourced for space in these two locations. Expansion of the Municipal building where the team is currently housed has been suggested as an alternative by the Municipality. There is a strong likelihood that while a new space funding request will be reviewed if submitted by the FHT, there may not be much more space we could look at approving for the team based on current FTE counts.

If you wish to discuss Anna, please let me know.

Thank you,

Sherri Cassin  
Senior Program Consultant  
Primary Health Care Branch – Family Health Teams  
Negotiations and Accountability Management Division  
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care  
402 – 159 Cedar Street  
Sudbury ON P3E 6A5  
Telephone: 705 564 7045  
Email: [sherri.cassin@ontario.ca](mailto:sherri.cassin@ontario.ca)



Appendix6: Letter from Maple Ridge FHO physicians to Powassan – April 14, 2014

04/14/2014 10:17 707022155

JOHN SEGWIN MEDICINE

PAGE 04

Mayor and Council  
Municipality of Powassan  
466 Main Street  
P.O. Box 250  
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0

April 14, 2014

Dear Mayor and Council,

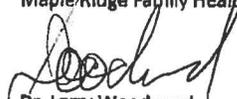
The Powassan & Area Family Health Team is a great addition to our region. The PAAFHT has augmented healthcare in our community, bringing on new staff, new leadership and administrative resources and allowing for new program design. The whole FHT team working together has enabled us to offer these programs and a greater range of services to our patients. Without the Family Health Team and the leadership of the Board and Executive Director we would not be able to offer all of healthcare improvements our patients are currently enjoying.

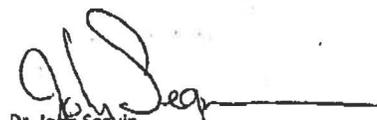
We prefer to proceed with the existing and MOHLTC approved plan for a new facility, designed primarily by Dr. Ken Runciman, over a proposed renovation and extension to the current Powassan Medical Centre. This new facility is designed to support the collaborative practice model. It will not only address our immediate needs for additional space, but provide room to grow as we want to bring additional physicians and other healthcare providers into our region. It will provide space for holding group and educational sessions for patients. It will also be the primary tool for the recruitment and retention of health care professionals, particularly physicians, to the region.

We encourage Powassan Municipal Council to support the PAAFHT in pursuing options to cover the cost for the physicians portion of this new facility.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Scott Houghton, Chair  
Maple Ridge Family Health Organization

  
Dr. Larry Woodward  
Maple Ridge Family Health Organization

  
Dr. John Segwin  
Maple Ridge Family Health Organization

Dr. Scot Saltstone  
Maple Ridge Family Health Organization

**Appendix 7: Email from Tammy Morrison, NBRHC Foundation – April 22, 2014****Anna Gibson-Olajos**

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**From:** Morison, Tammy <Tammy.Morison@nbrhc.on.ca>  
**Sent:** April-22-14 9:43 AM  
**To:** Anna Gibson-Olajos  
**Subject:** RE: New facility for Powassan & Area Family Health Team

Yes Anna, this is correct.  
t

**From:** Anna Gibson-Olajos [mailto:agibsonolajos@paafht.ca]  
**Sent:** April-22-14 9:31 AM  
**To:** Morison, Tammy  
**Subject:** New facility for Powassan & Area Family Health Team

Hello Tammy,

As per our discussion it is my understanding that in order to move forward and further negotiate any service agreement to start fundraising for the new Powassan and Area Family Health Team facility, the Foundation requires that there be a clear indication that the Municipality will support or at the very least, not speak against the fundraising campaign. Please confirm that my understanding is correct.

Thanks,  
Anna

*Anna Gibson-Olajos  
Executive Director  
Powassan and Area Family Health Team  
8 King St, Box 39  
Powassan, ON P0H 1Z0  
Tel: 705.724.1020 ext 208  
Fax: 705.724.5499  
[agibsonolajos@paafht.ca](mailto:agibsonolajos@paafht.ca)*

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**Appendix 8: Letter from Phil Graham, MOHLTC – Dec 30, 2013**



**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care**

**Ministère de la Santé  
et des Soins de longue durée**

Primary Health Care  
Negotiations and Accountability  
Management Division

Soins primaires  
Division des négociations et  
de la gestion de la responsabilisation

1075 Bay Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto ON M5S 2B1  
Tel: 416 325-3575  
Toll free: 1 866 766-0266  
Fax: 416 326-4684

1075, rue Bay, 9<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto ON M5S 2B1  
Tél. : 416 325-3575  
Sans frais : 1 866 766-0266  
Télééc. : 416 326-4684

HLTC3968IT-2013-1868

**DEC 30 2013**

Russell, Christie, LLP  
Barristers & Solicitors  
505 Memorial Avenue  
P.O. Box 158  
Orillia ON L3V 6J3

Attention: Mr. Edward B. Veldboom

Re: Powassan and Area FHT – Your File No.: 73-104-024

Thank you for your letter dated September 5, 2013. We are also in receipt of the responding letter dated October 2, 2013 from D'Agostino & Associates, solicitors for the Board of Directors of the Powassan and Area Family Health Team (PAFHT), addressed to your firm and copied to the ministry.

It is clear from both of the above-noted letters that the Municipality of Powassan and the Board of the PAFHT are not in agreement with the circumstances, events and governance pertaining to the PAFHT.

Please be advised that the ministry's primary concerns in the funding of Family Health Teams are: (i) that the recipients of funding be fully accountable for the expenditure of public funds and (ii) that the needs of the community are being met. The ministry does not become involved in any internal disputes of a FHT and expects the FHT to deal with matters pertaining to such disputes as well as public complaints.

Based on the information provided, the ministry currently has no reason to believe that the needs of the community are not being met. The ministry is also not aware of any breach by the PAFHT of any terms or conditions in their Funding Agreement with the ministry.

The ministry believes that your concerns regarding the Business and Operational Plan of the PAFHT have been appropriately and accurately addressed by PAFHT counsel and the ministry supports the on-going transformation efforts described by PAFHT counsel. The ministry will review the status and operations of PAFHT in the future as it considers necessary and appropriate.

.../2



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Russell, Christie, LLP

With regard to your conflict of interest concerns, the provision cited refers to an expired agreement. In situations where a conflict of interest is alleged, the ministry's primary focus has been on whether or not the person in question is qualified for the position and/or whether the alleged conflict resulted in any inappropriate spending of funds. While the ministry appreciates you raising the issue, your letter provides no details as to how the Executive Director was/is not qualified for the position or of any misappropriation.

In summary, the ministry considers your disagreement with the PAFHT Board to be an internal matter. The ministry is hopeful that the PAFHT Board and the Municipality of Powassan will resolve their differences and work collaboratively in the best interests of the community.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact Sherri Cassin, Senior Program Consultant, at 705-564-7045 or [sherri.cassin@ontario.ca](mailto:sherri.cassin@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Graham'.

Phil Graham  
Manager, Family Health Teams & Related Programs

c: Sherri Cassin, Senior Program Consultant, Primary Health Care Branch  
Anna Gibson-Olajos, Executive Director, Powassan and Area Family Health Team