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News Release

NORTHERN ONTARIO MAYORS ENDORSE GLEN MURRAY FOR LEADERSHIP

Candidate For Premier Calls For Stronger Northern Voice, Wins Support Across Region

HANMER, ONT. — Ontario Liberal Leadership Candidate Glen Murray's campaign for renewal has racked up endorsements from Northern Ontario mayors and public praise during his successful tour of the region this week.

Murray, who visited communities in both Northwestern and Northeastern Ontario from Thursday to Saturday, received endorsements from:

- Mayor Dave Canfield of Kenora
- Mayor Dennis Brown of Atikokan
- Mayor Rick Dumas of Marathon
- Mayor Keith Hobbs of Thunder Bay

An Ontario Liberal government under Premier Glen Murray would see the North establish its own regional government. Meeting with Northerners earlier in the week, Murray, a former big city mayor, won praise for recognizing that it's time for Northern Ontario to have a stronger voice in the province.

The <u>Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal</u> credited Murray for standing out among other candidates for his understanding of the North during his visit to that city:

The day's blue ribbon, though, went to Glen Murray, the former colleges and universities minister, who won the battle for attention with his proposal for a northern regional government to give the North "more authority over energy, infrastructure and natural resources" (though apparently not sole authority) ... Murray would like to look back in just 10 years and be able to say, "I was the premier when we took the steps to make Northern Ontario stronger."

"The North should have more authority over energy, infrastructure and natural resources. Northerners would choose by referendum the kind of regional authority they want," Murray said.

Glen Murray's leadership campaign of ideas and action is built on five main ideas for renewal for Ontario families and our economy:

- Tax cuts for the middle class and small business
- No-money-down university or college tuition
- Cities and towns that work
- Government that listens including a stronger voice for the North
- Smart government.

"I have a record of working with others to get things done. Let's renew the Ontario Liberal Party and renew Ontario together," Murray said.