



## **BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT 16-011**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Monday, November 14, 2016**

**Council Chambers**

**Hamilton City Hall**

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Present: Deputy Mayor B. Johnson  
Councillors A. Johnson, J. Farr, M. Green, S. Merulla, C. Collins,  
T. Jackson, D. Skelly, T. Whitehead D. Conley, M. Pearson,  
L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, R. Pasuta and J. Partridge

Absent with  
regrets: Mayor F. Eisenberger – Personal

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### **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REPORTED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:**

**1. Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015 (BOH16051)(City Wide) (Item 5.1)**

That Report BOH16051 respecting Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015, was received.

**2. Vaccine Program Update (BOH16053) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

- (a) That the Vaccine Program service delivery be managed through reallocation of existing budget and FTE in Public Health Services;
- (b) That the Board of Health send a letter to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care with copies to the Chief Medical Officer of Health and all Ontario Boards of Health to request adequate financial resources to fully deliver the Vaccine Program as described under the Ontario Public Health Standards and with a goal of increasing immunization levels in the community.

**3. Seniors Oral Health (BOH16040) (City Wide) (Item 7.2)**

- (a) That the proposed Seniors Dental Treatment and Outreach Program models be implemented within existing approved budget and with the following adjustments to the complement:
  - (i) Decrease Clinical Dentist from 0.8 FTE to 0.4 FTE
  - (ii) Delete 0.6 FTE Dental Assistant
  - (iii) Increase Dental Hygienist from 0.5 FTE to 1.5 FTE

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- (b) That Staff report back to the Board of Health on the Seniors Dental Treatment Model and the Seniors Oral Health Program in one year; and
- (c) That a letter be sent to the Ontario Minister of Health and Long-Term Care with copies to the Chief Medical Officer of Health and all Ontario Boards of Health to call on the provincial government to expand public oral health programs with consideration for low income adults and seniors.

**4. Special Events Guideline Update (BOH16030) (City Wide) (Item 7.3)**

That Report BOH16030 respecting Special Events Guideline Update, was received.

**5. Food Advisory Committee Budget (BOH16055) (City Wide) (Item 8.1)**

- (a) That the Food Advisory Committee 2017 base budget submission attached as Appendix "A" to Report BOH16055 in the amount of \$1,500 be approved and referred to the 2017 budget process for consideration;
- (b) That any remaining 2016 funds be returned to the Advisory Committee reserve for consideration for use by the Food Advisory Committee in subsequent years.

**6. Basic Income Hamilton Committee Update (BOH16058/CES16060) (City Wide) (Item 8.2)**

That Report BOH16058/CES16060 respecting a Basic Income Hamilton Committee Update, was received.

**7. Nutritious Food Basket 2016 (BOH16050) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)**

- (a) That the Board of Health support income responses to food insecurity by endorsing the Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health Position Statement on Responses to Food Insecurity (Appendix A to BOH16050);
- (b) That a letter be sent to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Minister of Community and Social Services, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care ***and the government's Standing Committee for Social Policy asking them to move ahead with Bill 6, Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2016.***

**8. Region of Halton Appointment of Associate Medical Officer of Health (BOH16056) (City Wide) (Item 12.1)**

- (a) That the Board of Health authorize and direct the Medical Officer of Health to execute an agreement with the Region of Halton, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, that supports a secondment of an Associate Medical Officer of Health, and
- (b) That the Board of Health authorize and direct the Medical Officer of Health to increase the complement in the Office of the Medical Officer of Health by 0.2 full time equivalent Associate Medical Officer of Health during the length of the secondment.
- (c) That Report BOH16056 respecting the Region of Halton Appointment of Associate Medical Officer of Health remain confidential.

**FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH:**

**(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Clerk advised the Board of the following changes:

**DELEGATION REQUEST (Item 4)**

- 4.5 Alana Baltzer, Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination (HOPE), respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting)
- 4.6 Myrtle Greve, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting)
- 4.7 Sally Palmer, Professor Emeritus, McMaster Community Poverty Initiative, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting)

The agenda for the November 14, 2016 Board of Health was approved, as amended.

**(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

None.

**(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 3)**

**(i) October 17, 2016 (Item 3.1)**

The Minutes of the October 17, 2016 meeting of the Board of Health were approved, as presented.

**(d) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)**

- (i) Lynella Welcome, and Dr. Madeleine Verhovsek respecting Sickle Cell Disease (for a future meeting) (Item 4.1)**

The delegation request from Lynella Welcome, and Dr. Madeleine Verhovsek respecting Sickle Cell Disease was approved, for a future meeting.

- (ii) Laura Cattari and Tom Cooper respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Item 4.2)**

The delegation request from Laura Cattari, Hamilton Roundtable on Poverty, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

- (iii) Anne Newbigging, Social Action Committee, Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Item 4.3)**

The delegation request from Anne Newbigging, Social Action Committee, Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

- (iv) Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Item 4.4)**

The delegation request from Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

- (v) Alana Baltzer, Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Added Item 4.5)**

The delegation request from Alana Baltzer, Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

- (vi) Myrtle Greve, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Added Item 4.6)**

The delegation request from Myrtle Greve, Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW), respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

- (vii) **Sally Palmer, Professor Emeritus, McMaster Community Poverty Initiative, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket (for today's meeting) (Added 4.7)**

The delegation request from Sally Palmer, Professor Emeritus, McMaster Community Poverty Initiative, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket, was approved for today's meeting.

**(e) CONSENT ITEM (Item 5)**

- (i) **Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015 (BOH16051)(City Wide) (Item 5.1)**

Ellen Pezzetta, Director, addressed the Board respecting BOH 16051, Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015, with an overview of the report.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 1.

**(f) DELEGATIONS (Item 6)**

**Nutritious Food Basket 2016 (BOH16050) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)**

- (i) **Laura Cattari, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Laura Cattari, of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction, addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. Pamphlets from the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction were distributed and a copy has been included in the official record. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- What is Bill 6, Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act, (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2016
- What does it look at in terms of adequacy?
- What is the ask?
  - That the Board of Health correspond with the Premier of Ontario, Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy , Minister of Community and Social Services and Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding the urgent need for income responses to food insecurity and supporting the establishment of a Social Assistance Research Commission
  - The the Board of Health correspond with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario asking for their support in establishing of a Social Assistance Research Commission.
- A quick note from our friends in Niagara
  - Dental Health for Adults and Seniors - Lori Kleinsmith, Health Promoter, Bridges Community Health Centre has asked that we

support further provincial funding of expanded oral health programs with consideration given to adults and seniors who are low income.

- The specifics:
  - Endorse the importance of oral health and request that the Premier of Ontario include oral health as part of the government's primary care transformation initiatives, and further,
  - That Council call on the provincial government to expand public oral health programs with prime consideration for low income adults and seniors, and further,
  - That Council forward copies of this resolution to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Local Members of Provincial Parliament, Member Municipalities, and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

The delegation from Laura Cattari, of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(ii) Anne Newbigging, Social Action Committee, Association of Social Workers, Hamilton and District Branch, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Anne Newbigging, of the Social Action Committee (SAC), Association of Social Workers, addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- The SAC congratulates Public Health Services on the work they have done in producing the NFB Report for 2016
- This Report and its predecessors have shown us each year that people receiving social assistance in Ontario can barely survive on the amounts set by the Ontario Government
- Although the rates have been raised by 1% per year since 2003, inflation for food and accommodation is closer to 2% per year, so recipients have been falling further behind each year
- The worst case scenario, as shown in Appendix C to the Report, is for single people receiving Ontario Works, who are \$104 short each month of being able to buy nutritious food, after paying an average rent for a bachelor apartment
- Many people think that people receiving Ontario Works are employable and should be moving back into the workforce; but there are many recipients who are physically or mentally unprepared for this
- The SAC, in partnership with Grace Lutheran Church, has been providing a monthly box of fresh fruit and vegetables (a Good Food Box) to OW Singles for the past 2 years, and have met many people who are not able to work
- At present, a private member's bill (Bill 6) initiated by Paul Miller, MPP for East Hamilton & Stoney Creek, is being considered by the Standing

Committee on Social Policy of the Provincial Government: this Bill would create a Social Assistance Research Coalition to study the cost of living in various Ontario communities and recommend social assistance rates that would allow recipients to live decently

- The SAC would like the BOH to urge the Government to pass this legislation, that would lead to more realistic rates of social assistance, so our citizens can buy nutritious food and meet some of their other basic needs

The delegation from Anne Newbigging, of the Social Action Committee (SAC), Association of Social Workers respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(iii) Elizabeth McGuire, Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Elizabeth McGuire from the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits, addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- Each year, Public Health brings forward the Nutritious Food Basket Report, and each year, people on assistance are shown to be falling further behind in access to secure food
- A Basic income system, as Public Health states in their report, would help address food insecurity
- The insecurity and continual stress caused by insufficient income is a major contributor to mental health challenges
- We support Public Health's Nutritious Food Basket report

The delegation from Elizabeth McGuire of the Campaign for Adequate Welfare and Disability Benefits respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(iv) Myrtle Greve, Canadian Federation of University Women, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Myrtle Greve, from the Canadian Federation of University Women addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today on behalf of the Canadian Federation of University Women, Hamilton
- We represent six clubs with over 5000 members in Ontario
- Our club advocates for the betterment of women and children
- We support the Nutritious Food Basket report
- We support the establishment of a Social Assistance Research Commission

- We are here to specifically advocate for single persons with Ontario Works and their issues finding and keeping affordable housing

The delegation from Myrtle Greve, of the Canadian Federation of University Women respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(iv) Alana Baltzer, Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Alana Baltzer, Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination Group, addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- As a member of Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination, I would urge the Board of Health that Social Assistance rates do not allow unattached recipients to eat a nutritious diet
- Current Social Assistance does not cover rent, nutritious food, and other necessary items
- This does not include toiletries, over the counter medications, or clothing
- The Commission would be able to provide information to the public on Social Assistance Rates and expenses, to give them a clearer picture of the gap in assistance and expenses
- We would recommend that the Board of Health provide written submissions to the Standing Committee for Social Policy to ask them to move ahead with Bill 6, *Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2016*

The delegation from Alana Baltzer, of the Hamilton Organizing for Poverty Elimination respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(v) Sally Palmer, McMaster Community Poverty Initiative, respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket**

Sally Palmer from the McMaster Community Poverty Initiative, addressed the Board respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016. Her comments included but were not limited to, the following:

- The McMaster Community Poverty Initiative (MCPI) congratulates the PHS staff for their excellent report on the Nutritious Food Basket for 2016
- Bill 6, *Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2016* addresses the inadequacy of our present social assistance rates



- If passed, Bill 6 would establish a Social Assistance Research Coalition to research the cost of living in various Ontario communities and recommend rates of social assistance consistent with their findings
- Social assistance for people who depend on *Ontario Works* or the *Ontario Disability Support Program* has been losing its buying power since 1995, when the Ontario Government cut assistance rates by 21.6% for all recipients
- We ask that the Board of Health communicate with the Province regarding the urgent need to move Bill 6 into legislation, to address this critical gap in our services to vulnerable people

The delegation from Sally Palmer from the McMaster Community Poverty Initiative respecting BOH16050, Nutritious Food Basket 2016, was received.

**(g) PRESENTATIONS (Item 7)**

**(i) Vaccine Program Update (BOH16053) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

Dr. Jessica Hopkins, Associate Medical Officer of Health addressed the Board with a PowerPoint presentation respecting BOH16053, the Vaccine Program Update. A copy of the presentation has been added to the public record. Her comments included, but were not limited to the following:

- Overview of requirements in the Vaccine Program
- Impact of approving or not approving the recommendations
- PHS process to arrive at recommendations
- *Health Protection and Promotion Act*
- *Immunization of School Pupils Act*
- Ontario Public Health Standards
- Public Health Funding and Accountability Agreement
- 6 major program areas
  - Program Area 1: Immunization Record Assessment
  - Program Area 2: Providing Immunizations
  - Program Area 3: Vaccine Inventory Management
  - Program Area 4: Adverse Event Following Immunization Reporting
  - Program Area 5: Health Promotion and Policy Development
  - Program Area 6: Emergency Preparedness
- Impacts: Vaccine Program Requirements and Impacts of Recommendations
- Arriving at Recommendations

The Presentation on BOH16053 respecting a Vaccine Program Update, was received.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 2.

**(ii) Seniors Oral Health (BOH16040) (City Wide) (Item 7.1)**

Dr. Ninh Tran, Associate Medical Officer of Health, addressed the Board respecting Report BOH16040, Seniors Oral Health, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been added to the public record. His comments included, but were not limited to the following:

- Background
- Clinical
- Outreach
- Context and evidence
- Recommendations

The Presentation on Report BOH16040 respecting Seniors Oral Health, was received.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 3.

**(iii) Special Events Guideline Update (BOH16030) (City Wide) (Item 7.3)**

Richard McDonald, Program Manager addressed the Board respecting BOH16030, Special Events Guidelines Update, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation. A copy of the presentation has been added to the public record. His comments included, but were not limited to the following:

- Role of Public Health
- Public Health Laws
- Special Event Process
- Work We Do

**(Whitehead/Skelly)**

That the Presentation on respecting BOH16030, Special Events Guidelines Update was received.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 4.

**(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 8)**

**(i) Nutritious Food Basket 2016 (BOH16050) (City Wide) (Item 8.3)**

Sub-section (b) of Report BOH16050 respecting the Nutritious Food Basket was amended to read as follows:

- (b) That the Board of Health correspond with the Premier of Ontario, the Minister Responsible for the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Minister of

Community and Social Services, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care ***and the government's Standing Committee for Social Policy asking them to move ahead with Bill 6, Ministry of Community and Social Services Amendment Act (Social Assistance Research Commission), 2016*** ~~regarding the urgent need for income responses to food insecurity and supporting the establishment of a Social Assistance Research Commission.~~

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 7.

**(g) GENERAL INFORMATION/OTHER BUSINESS (Item 11)**

**(i) Amendments to the Outstanding Business List (Item 11.1)**

The following Items were marked as completed, and removed:

Item C - Calorie Counting Menus (Item 5.1 on this agenda)

Item R - Hamilton Basic Income Guarantee Committee, respecting information on Basic Income (Item 8.2 on this agenda)

**(h) PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL (Item 12)**

**(i) Region of Halton Appointment of Associate Medical Officer of Health (BOH16056) (City Wide) (Item 12.1)**

As the Board of Health determined that discussion of Report BOH16056 respecting the Region of Halton Appointment of Associate Medical Officer of Health was not required, the Report was approved in Open Session.

For disposition of this matter, refer to Item 8

**(i) ADJOURNMENT (Item 13)**

There being no further business, the Board of Health adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Mayor B. Johnson  
Chair, Board of Health

Loren Kolar  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk