



City of Hamilton
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
ADDENDUM

Meeting #: 24-004
Date: April 29, 2024
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Council Chambers
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West

Matt Gauthier, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 6437

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 April 2, 2024

*a. April 2, 2024 - REVISED

5. COMMUNICATIONS

*5.8 Correspondence from Christine Duncan-Wilson, Chair, Immunity Canada, respecting Item 11.1, Resolution to declare the City of Hamilton a “No Paid Plasma Zone”

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the consideration of Item 11.1.

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

6.1 Delegation Requests respecting Item 11.1, Resolution to Declare the City of Hamilton a "No Paid Plasma Zone", for today's meeting, from the following individuals:

*e. Donna Hartlen, GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada

6.2 Delegation Requests respecting 10.1, Heat Response Strategy (BOH23010) (City Wide), for today's meeting, from the following individuals:

*b. Jacqueline Wilson, Canadian Environmental Law Association

*c. Don McLean, Hamilton 350 Committee

*d. Ian Borsuk, Environment Hamilton

*e. Clare Freeman, Hamilton Community Legal Clinic

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

*8.1 Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide)

*a. Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide) - Revised Report & Appendices

*b. Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide) - Staff Presentation

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

10.1 Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide)

*a. This Item has been moved to 8.1 under Staff Presentations



**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
(Formerly the Board of Health)
MINUTES 24-003**

9:30 a.m.

Tuesday April 2, 2024

Council Chambers, City Hall, 2nd Floor
71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Mayor A. Horwath (Chair)
Councillor M. Wilson (Vice-Chair)
Councillors J. Beattie, C. Cassar, B. Clark, J.P. Danko, M. Francis,
T. Hwang, T. Jackson, C. Kroetsch, T. McMeekin, E. Pauls, M.
Tadeson and A. Wilson

**Absent with
Regrets:** Councillors N. Nann and M. Spadafora - Personal

**THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH FOR
CONSIDERATION:**

**1. City of Hamilton Support for SCORE! Program (BOH24007) (City Wide)
(Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 9.1)**

(Francis/Kroetsch)

That Report BOH24007, respecting City of Hamilton Support for SCORE!
Program, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar

Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

2. Monitoring Heat-Related Deaths and Illnesses in Hamilton (BOH24005) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 9.2)

(Kroetsch/Hwang)

That Report BOH24005, respecting Monitoring Heat-Related Deaths and Illnesses in Hamilton, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

3. Suspect Drug-Related Deaths and Opioid-Related Paramedic Calls (September-December 2023) (BOH24006) (City Wide) (Item 9.3)

(Tadeson/A. Wilson)

That Report BOH24006, respecting Suspect Drug-Related Deaths and Opioid-Related Paramedic Calls (September-December 2023), be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis

Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

4. Selection Criteria and Policy and By-Law Changes to Implement the Public Health Sub-Committee (BOH24003) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)

(Kroetsch/Tadeson)

- (a) That the Criteria for the Selection of Community and Education Representatives on the Public Health Sub-Committee, as outlined in Appendix “A” **as amended, by including among the list of applicant preferences, an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing** to Report BOH24003, be approved;
- (b) That the Terms of Reference for the Public Health Sub-Committee, as outlined in Appendix “B” to Report BOH24003, be approved;
- (c) That the Amendments to the Corporate Policy – Appointment of Citizens to the City’s Local Boards, as outlined in Appendix “C” **as amended, by including among the list of applicant preferences, an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing** to Report BOH24003, be approved by Council;
- (d) That Council direct staff to initiate the process for recruiting community and education representatives for the Public Health Sub-Committee once the Amendments to the Corporate Policy – Appointment of Citizens to the City’s Local Boards are approved;
- (e) That Appendix “D” attached to Report BOH24003, respecting the Amendments to By-law 21-021, A By-Law to Govern the Proceedings of Council and Committees of Council, be enacted by Council once the existing Public Health Committee has been dissolved by the Mayor pursuant to section 284.8(1) of the *Municipal Act*; and,
- (f) That Item 2024-A(b), respecting the interim solution to establish a Public Health Sub-Committee, be removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.

Result: Main Motion, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised the Committee of the following changes to the agenda:

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 Correspondence from Joy Lachica, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, respecting Legislated improvements to indoor air quality (IAQ) in indoor public settings are required to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and other airborne pathogens - REVISED

Recommendation: Be received ***and referred to the Medical Officer of Health for analysis and a report back to the Public Health Committee.***

- 5.2 Correspondence from Wess Garrod, Board of Health Chair, Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Public Health, respecting Public Health Ontario Laboratories – REVISED

Recommendation: Be endorsed.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

12.1 Resolution to declare the City of Hamilton a “No Paid Plasma Zone”

(Tadeson/Hwang)

That the agenda for the April 2, 2024, Public Health Committee be approved, as amended.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(b) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

(c) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) February 5, 2024 (Item 4.1)

(Hwang/Cassar)

That the Minutes of the February 5, 2024, meeting of the Public Health Committee be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

Absent	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4	Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5	Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Absent	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

(d) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(i) (A. Wilson/Tadeson)

That the following Communication items be approved, as presented:

- (a) Correspondence from Joy Lachica, Board of Health Chair, Peterborough Public Health, respecting Legislated improvements to indoor air quality (IAQ) in indoor public settings are required to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 and other airborne pathogens - REVISED (Item 5.1)

Recommendation: Be received and referred to the Medical Officer of Health for analysis and a report back to the Public Health Committee.

- (b) Correspondence from Wess Garrod, Board of Health Chair, Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Public Health, respecting Public Health Ontario Laboratories – REVISED (Item 5.2)

Recommendation: Be endorsed.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls

Yes	-	Ward 8	Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10	Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11	Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12	Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13	Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14	Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15	Councillor Ted McMeekin

(e) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

(i) Kathleen Zavarise, Trillium Gift of Life, respecting Spreading Awareness about Organ and Tissue Donation (for a future meeting) (Item 8.1)

(A. Wilson/Kroetsch)

That the delegation request from Kathleen Zavarise, Trillium Gift of Life, respecting Spreading Awareness about Organ and Tissue Donation, be approved for a future meeting.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 14 to 0, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(f) DISCUSSION ITEMS (Item 10)

Mayor Horwath relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair M. Wilson for the remainder of the meeting.

- (i) **Selection Criteria and Policy and By-Law Changes to Implement the Public Health Sub-Committee (BOH24003) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item) (Item 10.1)**
- (1) **(Kroetsch/Tadeson)**
- (a) That the Criteria for the Selection of Community and Education Representatives on the Public Health Sub-Committee, as outlined in Appendix “A” to Report BOH24003, be approved;
 - (b) That the Terms of Reference for the Public Health Sub-Committee, as outlined in Appendix “B” to Report BOH24003, be approved;
 - (c) That the Amendments to the Corporate Policy – Appointment of Citizens to the City’s Local Boards, as outlined in Appendix “C” to Report BOH24003, be approved by Council;
 - (d) That Council direct staff to initiate the process for recruiting community and education representatives for the Public Health Sub-Committee once the Amendments to the Corporate Policy – Appointment of Citizens to the City’s Local Boards are approved;
 - (e) That Appendix “D” attached to Report BOH24003, respecting the Amendments to By-law 21-021, A By-Law to Govern the Proceedings of Council and Committees of Council, be enacted by Council once the existing Public Health Committee has been dissolved by the Mayor pursuant to section 284.8(1) of the *Municipal Act*; and,
 - (f) That Item 2024-A(b), respecting the interim solution to establish a Public Health Sub-Committee, be removed from the Public Health Committee Outstanding Business List.
- (2) **(Danko/Pauls)**
- (a) That Appendix “A” to Report BOH24003 to Report BOH24003, Selection Criteria and Policy and By-Law Changes to Implement the Public Health Sub-Committee, ***be amended, to include among the list of applicant preferences, an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing,*** as follows:

Preference will be given to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- a resident of, or owner of a property or business in, the City;
- at least 18 years of age;
- ***an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing;***
- interest or skills in planning and policy development leading to a comprehensive municipal public health agenda that meets local community needs;*
- have an understanding of principles including health equity, inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility, anti-racism, anti-Indigenous racism, and anti-oppression;
- experience in organizational activities, such as committees, non-profit groups, voluntary societies, occupational associations;*
- skills in leadership and management and/or experience in administration and budget development;*
- demonstrated skills in conflict management, collaboration, negotiation, and mediation;* and,
- able to devote up to 10 to 15 hours per month (for members) or 20 to 25 hours per month (for Chair or Vice Chair) to Public Health matters, including availability during normal business hours.

(b) That Appendix “C” to Report BOH24003 Appendix “C” to Report BOH24003, Selection Criteria and Policy and By-Law Changes to Implement the Public Health Sub-Committee, ***be amended, to include among the list of applicant preferences, an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing,*** as follows:

Selection Process for the Appointment of six community representatives to the Public Health Sub-Committee:

(iv) Interview applicants who have met the criteria (below), ensuring that they are not eligible (below);

Preference will be given to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- a resident of, or owner of a property or business in, the City;
- at least 18 years of age;
- ***an Ontario Regulated Health Professional in good standing;***
- interest or skills in planning and policy development leading to a comprehensive municipal public health

- agenda that meets local community needs;*
- have an understanding of principles including health equity, inclusion, diversity, equity, accessibility, anti-racism, anti-Indigenous racism, and anti-oppression;
- experience in organizational activities, such as committees, non-profit groups, voluntary societies, occupational associations;*
- skills in leadership and management and/or experience in administration and budget development;*
- demonstrated skills in conflict management, collaboration, negotiation, and mediation;* and,
- able to devote up to 10 to 15 hours per month (for members) or 20 to 25 hours per month (for Chair or Vice Chair) to Public Health matters, including availability during normal business hours.

Result: Amendment CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 2, as follows:

Yes	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
No	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
No	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 4.

(g) NOTICE OF MOTION (Item 12)

Vice-Chair M. Wilson relinquished the Chair to Councillor Kroetsch, in order to introduce the following Notice of Motion on behalf of Mayor Horwath.

(i) **Resolution to declare the City of Hamilton a “No Paid Plasma Zone”
(Added Item 12.1)**

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton supports voluntary blood and plasma donation and aims to protect our public collection system, recognizing the importance of blood donation as a public good;

WHEREAS, Canada’s tainted blood crisis resulted in the loss of approximately 8,000 lives and the subsequent Royal Krever Commission recommended Canada operate a fully voluntary, non-remunerated blood and plasma donation system;

WHEREAS, within Ontario’s healthcare system blood donations are viewed as a public resource;

WHEREAS, the integrity of the of the public, voluntary donor system must be protected;

WHEREAS, in Ontario, the Voluntary Blood Donations Act, stipulates that it is against the law for private companies to pay donors and for donors to receive payment for their blood or plasma;

WHEREAS, paid plasma collection schemes are known to target and exploit the most vulnerable members of among communities; and

WHEREAS, this resolution reaffirms the principles of voluntary, non-remunerated blood and plasma donation and aims to protect the integrity of Canada’s public blood system and the integrity of blood donors.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the City of Hamilton designates itself a “Paid-Plasma Free Zone” and declares that private for-profit blood collection companies are not permitted to operate in the City;
- (b) That the City of Hamilton resolves to protect marginalized and vulnerable populations from exploitation resulting from for-profit plasma collection by advertising financial payment for the sale of their blood-plasma; and
- (c) That a copy of this resolution be sent to Canadian Blood Services, federal, provincial and territorial Ministers of Health, Grifols pharmaceuticals, and all Ontario Municipalities requesting that they respect the City of Hamilton as a “Paid-Plasma Free Zone” and support only voluntary Blood and plasma collection.

Vice-Chair M. Wilson assumed the Chair.

(h) GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)

(i) Amendments to the Outstanding Business List

(Jackson/Hwang)

That the following amendments to the Public Health Committee's Outstanding Business List, be approved:

(1) Items Considered Complete and to be Removed (Item 13.1(a)):

(i) Feasibility of Tracking Heat-Related Deaths and Illnesses
Added: May 15, 2023 (Special PHC Report 23-006, Item 1)
(Item 13.1(a)(a))
Addressed as Item 9.2 on today's agenda.

(ii) Consultation with SCORE! (Strengthening Community Roots: Anchoring Newcomers in Wellness and Sustainability) on the Riverdale Neighborhood Project (Ward 5) (Item 13.1(a)(b))
Added: December 4, 2023 (PHC Report 23-012, Item 5)
Addressed as 9.1 on today's agenda.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin

(i) **ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

(Cassar/A. Wilson)

That, there being no further business, the Public Health Committee be adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

Absent	-	Mayor Andrea Horwath
Yes	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
Yes	-	Ward 2 Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Absent	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
Yes	-	Ward 4 Councillor Tammy Hwang
Yes	-	Ward 5 Councillor Matt Francis
Yes	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
Yes	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
Yes	-	Ward 8 Councillor John-Paul Danko
Yes	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
Yes	-	Ward 10 Councillor Jeff Beattie
Yes	-	Ward 11 Councillor Mark Tadeson
Yes	-	Ward 12 Councillor Craig Cassar
Yes	-	Ward 13 Councillor Alex Wilson
Absent	-	Ward 14 Councillor Mike Spadafora
Yes	-	Ward 15 Councillor Ted McMeekin Ted McMeekin

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Andrea Horwath
Chair, Public Health Committee

Councillor Maureen Wilson
Vice-Chair, Public Health Committee

Matt Gauthier
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk



April 18, 2024

Mayor Andrea Horwath
Hamilton City Hall
71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
L8P 4Y5

Dear Mayor Horwath,

As a Hamiltonian, I would like to express my concern regarding the notice of motion for the April 29th meeting of the Committee on Public Health to declare the City of Hamilton a “plasma-free zone”. Not only am I a plasma product user, but I am also Chair of Immunity Canada, the patient organization representing thousands of primary immunodeficiency patients across Canada who are life dependant on the plasma-derived medicinal product (PDMP), Immunoglobulin replacement therapy (IG).

For over 85% of primary immunodeficiency patients there is no alternative therapy than IG. In their 2019 report on IG, Health Canada stated that primary immunodeficiency was the only disease state that is life dependent on IG. These patients, like myself, rely on this PDMP for not only continued stability of their disease but to live.

The WHO and the EMA has listed IG as a critical medicine, and currently Canada only produces enough plasma to supply 13% of our patient needs, purchasing the rest on the global market. The US supplies 75% of the global plasma supply. To illustrate it in another way, in order to supply Canada’s patient needs, for every 10 plasma donors needed, only 2 are Canadian.

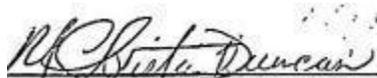
Plasma is a highly regulated industry, with not only regional regulators, but global safety standards, regulations and independent auditors. Donor safety remains paramount as not only are these built in requirements for regulators but also will determine the quality of the end product. There are no safety concerns, either for the patient receiving the product or the plasma donor.

CBS’ plasma business plans, including the partnership with the Spanish collector in question, would grow Canada’s plasma self-sufficiency from 13% to 50%. This initiative is supported by

the Province of Ontario, patients, patient organizations, physicians, physician organizations, and other stakeholders affected.

On behalf of Immunity Canada, I ask you to consider the perspectives of those affected stakeholders, as well as Canadian Blood Services, before making any reactionary motions that would create barriers to access to treatment for not only Hamiltonians like me but potentially thousands of Canadians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M Christine Duncan-Wilson", written over a horizontal line.

M Christine Duncan-Wilson
Chair, Immunity Canada

cc: uzma.qureshi@hamilton.ca, matt.gauthier@hamilton.ca, jennifer.vangennip@nrbd.ca

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 25, 2024 4:18 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Thu, 04/25/2024 - 16:18

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Health Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Donna Hartlen

GBS/CIDP Foundation of Canada

3100 Garden Street

PO Box 80060 RPO Rosland Garden

Whitby, ON. L1R 0H1

dhartlen@gbscidp.ca



Preferred Pronoun

she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request

We are a national patient organization representing GBS, CIDP, and MMN patients who are recipients of the plasma-derived product, Immunoglobulin. We would like to present our perspective regarding the Public Health Committee's April 29th motion to make Hamilton a 'Paid-Plasma Free Zone'.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

No

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 25, 2024 9:42 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Thu, 04/25/2024 - 09:42

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Health Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

Virtually

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Jacqueline Wilson

Canadian Environmental Law Association

1500-55 University Avenue

Toronto, ON. M5J 2H7

jacqueline@cela.ca



Preferred Pronoun

she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request

Canadian Environmental Law Association recommendations on Item 10.1 Heat Response Strategy.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

Yes

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 25, 2024 5:56 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Thu, 04/25/2024 - 17:56

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Health Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

Virtually

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Don McLean

Hamilton 350 Committee



Preferred Pronoun

he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request

Speak to item 10.1 on the agenda of the April 29, 2024 agenda

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

No

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 26, 2024 9:02 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Fri, 04/26/2024 - 09:01

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee

Public Health Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?

In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?

No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information

Ian Borsuk

Environment Hamilton

51 Stuart Street

Hamilton, Ontario. L8L1B5

iborsuk@environmenthamilton.org

9055490900

Preferred Pronoun

he/him

Reason(s) for delegation request

I seek to speak on item 10.1 Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide) for the April 29th Public Health Committee meeting.

Will you be requesting funds from the City?

No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?

No

From: City of Hamilton <hello@hamilton.ca>

Sent: April 26, 2024 10:06 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Webform submission from: Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

Submitted on Fri, 04/26/2024 - 10:06

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Committee Requested

Committee
Public Health Committee

Will you be delegating in-person or virtually?
In-person

Will you be delegating via a pre-recorded video?
No

Requestor Information

Requestor Information
Clare Freeman(cis-she/her)-HAMCLC
Hamilton Community Legal Clinic
100 Main St East, Suite 201
Hamilton, Ontario. L8P 4H5
clare.freeman@hclclcj.ca


Preferred Pronoun
she/her

Reason(s) for delegation request
Item 10.1 Heat Strategy

Will you be requesting funds from the City?
No

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?
No



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
 Healthy Environments Division

TO:	Mayor and Members Public Health Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	April 29, 2024
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Heat Response Strategy (BOH24010) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Matthew Lawson (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5823 Sally Radisic (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5549 Shelley Rogers (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1275
SUBMITTED BY:	Kevin McDonald Director, Healthy Environments Division Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Heat Response Strategy attached as Appendix “A” to Report BOH24010, with the exception of Action Numbers 6, 7, 9 and 10 be approved;
- (b) That the Hamilton Paramedic Service report to the General Issues Committee regarding the operational feasibility of having the Mobile Integrated Health program increase outreach and wellness checks to clients during periods of extreme heat (Action Number 6);
- (c) That the Director of Environmental Services, Public Works report to the General Issues Committee regarding the feasibility of installing shade structures in areas identified using heat and equity mapping, and the installation of misting stations in priority locations (Action Numbers 7 and 9); and,
- (d) That the Director of Transit, Public Works report to the General Issues Committee regarding the operational feasibility of offering free or discounted transportation during heat warnings and extended heat warnings to act as cooling places (Action Number 10).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2023, Public Health Services indicated it would bring more information regarding a Community Heat Response Strategy to the Public Health Committee (see Public

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

Health Committee Report BOH23019). The Community Heat Response Strategy (see Appendix “A” to Report BOH24010) consists of ten actions building on the City’s annual Heat Response Plan (see Appendix “B” to Report BOH24010) with the first five heat-related interventions already in practice along with the last five “new” interventions for Committee’s consideration moving forward.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 5

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: Not Applicable.

Staffing: Not Applicable.

Legal: Not Applicable.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

At the May 1, 2023 Public Health Committee Meeting, Public Health Services indicated it would bring more information regarding a Community Heat Response Strategy for 2024-2027 to the Public Health Committee in Q1 2024 (see Public Health Committee Report BOH23019).

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

The Community Heat Response Strategy aligns with mandated work for Public Health Services as outlined in the Ontario Public Health Standards’ “Healthy Environments” program standard. Additionally, this recommendation aligns with Council’s direction at the “Special” Public Health Committee Meeting on May 15, 2023:

“That staff in the Licensing and By-law Services Division be directed to prepare an Information Report for Q4 2023 identifying the 2024 priorities and timelines for the development of “new” by-laws, including an Adequate Temperature By-law and report back to the Planning Committee”.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Throughout the development of the Community Heat Response Strategy, consultation and engagement occurred with staff across relevant City divisions, as well as local community partners providing services to individuals disproportionately impacted by extreme heat, through the Extreme Heat Working Group including the following members:

- Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN);

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OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

- Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities;
- Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity;
- City Housing Hamilton;
- City of Hamilton, Housing Services;
- City of Hamilton, Office of Climate Change Initiatives;
- City of Hamilton, Parks and Cemeteries;
- City of Hamilton, Public Health Services;
- City of Hamilton, Recreation;
- Environment Hamilton;
- Hamilton 350;
- Hamilton and District Apartment Association;
- Hamilton Community Legal Clinic;
- Hamilton Public Library;
- Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction;
- Hamilton Street Railway (HSR);
- Native Women's Centre;
- Salvation Army;
- Seniors Advisory Committee;
- Victorian Order of Nurses (VON);
- Wesley; and,
- YWCA Hamilton.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The City of Hamilton Climate Science Report¹ predicts that the number of consecutive days that the temperature rises above 30°C will increase and that heat waves, defined as three days or more where the temperature is over 30°C or 40 on the humidex scale, will be more frequent, as well as temperatures over 35°C. Further, research has identified increases in temperature-related mortality with future climate change impacts along with the need for urgent action.²

Health Canada (2022) has identified that at-risk groups for extreme heat events include older adults, low-income earners, people with chronic illnesses (i.e., breathing problems, mental illness, heart problems).³ Moreover, the Hamilton Paramedic Service

¹ City of Hamilton Climate Science Report.

<https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/2022-10/climate-change-impact-adapatationplan-science-report.pdf>

² Hebbert et al., 2023. Future temperature-related excess mortality under climate change and population aging scenarios in Canada. Canadian Journal of Public Health. 114:726–736. <https://link.springer.com/article/10.17269/s41997-023-00782-5>

³ Health Canada. 2022. Extreme heat events: Health risks and who is at risk of extreme heat events. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/climate-change-health/extreme-heat/who-is-at-risk.html>

through their Mobile Integrated Health Program provide on-site advanced medical assessments, treatment, and coordination of care, addressing various health concerns impacting the at-risk populations identified above by Health Canada.⁴ Given their existing successful Mobile Integrated Health program and expertise, there is opportunity for the Hamilton Paramedic Service to increase outreach and wellness checks to clients during periods of extreme heat and leverage current services.

Additionally, research has found that misting stations had cooling effects in skin temperature as both measured and reported by study participants in various parts of the world including: Arizona, the United States of America; Antofagasta, Chile; Rome and Ancona, Italy, and Osaka, Japan.⁵ Hence, the City of Vancouver, British Columbia has also provided misting stations as a cooling intervention for their population which are easily located and accessed via a mapping tool on their website.⁶ Hence, misting station implementation as a cooling intervention could be added to Hamilton's existing cool places map on the city's website providing cooling effects to Hamilton's population during extreme heat events.⁷

Further, in an effort to provide access to cooling interventions (e.g. recreation centres, libraries, public pools, misting stations, etc.) and recognizing that transportation is often a barrier⁸ particularly for people disproportionately impacted by extreme heat including the at-risk population identified by Health Canada, there is a need to consider free or discounted transportation during heat warnings and extended heat warnings to cool places.

Therefore, ten Community Heat Response Strategy actions were identified via research evidence⁹ and consultation with staff across relevant City divisions, as well as local

⁴ Hamilton Paramedic Service 2022 Annual Report.

https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/2023-08/emergency_hps-annual-report-2022-final_0.pdf

⁵ Black-Ingersoll et al., 2022. A Literature Review of Cooling Center, Misting Station, Cool Pavement, and Cool Roof Intervention Evaluations. *Atmosphere*. 13(7).

<https://www.mdpi.com/2073-4433/13/7/1103>

⁶ City of Vancouver, British Columbia. 2023. Stay safe in the summer heat.

<https://vancouver.ca/home-property-development/hot-weather.aspx>

⁷ City of Hamilton. 2023. Heat Warnings and Health-Related Illness.

<https://www.hamilton.ca/people-programs/public-health/environmental-health-hazards/heat-warnings-heat-related-illness>

⁸ Widerynski, S. et al., 2017. The Use of Cooling Centers to Prevent Heat-Related Illness: Summary of Evidence and Strategies for Implementation. *Climate and Health Technical Report Series*, Climate and Health Program, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. <https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/docs/UseOfCoolingCenters.pdf>

⁹ Institute for Health Economics, Alberta Canada. 2022. Adaptation Strategies for Reducing Extreme Heat Health Impacts: A Rapid Review.

community partners providing services to individuals disproportionately impacted by extreme heat, through the Extreme Heat Working Group. The first five Community Heat Response Strategy actions are interventions already in practice and the last five are “new” interventions to be considered for implementation moving forward (see Appendix “A” to Report BOH24010).

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

Public Health Committee may direct staff to revise any of the Community Heat Response Strategy actions (i.e. Action 1 through Action 10 in Appendix “A”), including a further examination of additional interventions.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report BOH24010:	City of Hamilton Community Heat Response Strategy 2024
Appendix “B” to Report BOH24010:	City of Hamilton Community Heat Response Plan March 2024

<https://www.ihe.ca/publications/adaptation-strategies-for-reducing-extreme-heat-health-impacts-a-rapid-review>



CITY OF HAMILTON
COMMUNITY HEAT RESPONSE STRATEGY
2024

DRAFT

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2023, Public Health Services informed the Public Health Committee it would prepare a Heat Response Strategy recommendation report to go forward in the first quarter of 2024. The Heat Response Strategy includes extreme heat-related actions that were included in the City of Hamilton’s Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan (2022)¹ and recommended updates to the Community Heat Response Plan². The Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan was approved by Council in 2022 and includes actions to adapt to the impacts of climate change on a local level. The City’s Community Heat Response Plan outlines actions that are implemented by the Community Heat Response Committee during Heat Warnings and Extended Heat Warnings. Both plans work in conjunction to address extreme heat in Hamilton.

Preparation of this Strategy was led by Public Health Services in consultation with the Extreme Heat Working Group and other City of Hamilton staff who provide direct services to higher risk demographics and equity deserving groups. This Strategy should be reviewed annually and updated as required.

¹ City of Hamilton Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan: <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=335322>

² City of Hamilton Community Heat Response Plan: <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=363334>

EXTREME HEAT WORKING GROUP

The Extreme Heat Working Group originated as part of the Advancing Adaptation Pilot Project³. The project was conducted by Public Health Services in collaboration with City Housing Hamilton and in consultation with the Extreme Heat Working Group. In 2023, the group expanded to include members of the Community Heat Response Committee, additional community groups, individuals representing equity deserving groups, environmental groups, and other entities with interest in this work. Members include:

Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN)	Hamilton 350
Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities	Hamilton and District Apartment Association
Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity	Hamilton Community Legal Clinic
City Housing Hamilton	Hamilton Public Library
City of Hamilton, Housing Services	Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction
City of Hamilton, Office of Climate Change Initiatives	Hamilton Street Railway (HSR)
City of Hamilton, Parks and Cemeteries	Native Women's Centre
City of Hamilton, Public Health Services	Salvation Army
City of Hamilton, Recreation	Seniors Advisory Committee
Environment Hamilton	Victorian Order of Nurses (VON)
	Wesley
	YWCA Hamilton

The group met monthly from June 2023 through December 2023 to discuss the expansion of the City's prior Community Heat Response Plan and extreme heat items identified in the City's Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan.

³ Advancing Adaptation Implementation through Collaboration:
<https://icleicanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2022-Hamilton-Case-Study-Advancing-Adpatation-Project-Implementation-Cohort.pdf>

SCOPE

The Heat Response Strategy includes City of Hamilton’s Corporate Actions only. This Strategy does not give specific direction to external partners. Instead, City Staff are committed to engaging and supporting external partners to implement actions that align with the Heat Response Strategy. Items covered in the Heat Response Strategy will be limited to the expansion of the City’s Community Heat Response Plan and the following actions included in the City’s Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan (2022):

- Develop and implement a response program for vulnerable populations to protect residents from extreme heat
- Consolidate existing vulnerable persons’ contact lists and update/expand them to guide emergency response and/or other assistance programs
- Coordinate local efforts to address excessive indoor temperatures in rental housing
- Establish buddy systems/help-your-neighbour programs to implement during extreme heat events
- Explore opportunities to expand current cooling centre programming and interventions
- Improve monitoring, data collection, and notification surrounding extreme heat

NOT IN SCOPE

The Heat Response Strategy does not include response actions for Air Quality or Cold Alerts. This Strategy does not include Emergency procedures when the Emergency Operations Centre is activated. Actions and initiatives of Community Partners are not within the scope of this Strategy; however, City Staff will engage and support Community Partners to implement the Heat Response Plan and Heat Response Strategy. Greenhouse gas emissions mitigation is not included in the scope of this Strategy.

AUTHORITY

This Strategy includes heat-related items from the Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan as well as updates to Hamilton’s Community Heat Response Plan. The City of Hamilton’s Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan was approved by City Council in 2022. Hamilton’s Community Heat Response Committee was formed in 2002. The Community Heat Response Plan was introduced in 2008.

Approval and authorization of the Heat Response Strategy will be at the discretion of City of Hamilton Public Health Committee, Board of Health and Council.

EVALUATION

The Community Heat Response Plan and Heat Response Strategy will be reviewed annually for operational effectiveness. Progress of strategic actions will be reviewed by the Office of Climate Change Initiatives.

2.0 HEAT WARNING INFORMATION SYSTEM

HEAT WARNINGS AND EXTENDED HEAT WARNINGS

Public Health Services monitors weather forecasts and communications issued by Environment Canada regarding initiated Heat Warnings. Environment Canada issues Heat Warnings when there are **two or more consecutive days** forecasted with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and nighttime lows greater than or equal to 20°C **or two or more consecutive days** with a humidex of 40°C or greater.

Extended Heat Warnings are issued locally by the Medical Officer of Health when there are **three or more consecutive days** observed with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and nighttime lows greater than or equal to 20°C **or three or more consecutive days** with a humidex of 40°C or greater.

When a Heat Warning or Extended Heat Warning is issued, Public Health Services amplifies the warning by providing communication internally, to community partners, local media outlets and updates the City of Hamilton website for public information. The partnering agencies and service providers of the Community Heat Response Committee then implement the Community Heat Response Plan according to their defined roles and responsibilities.

ESCALATION OF EMERGENCY

If the Emergency Operations Centre is activated due to an extreme heat event, City of Hamilton staff will follow the City of Hamilton Emergency Plan.⁴

⁴ City of Hamilton Emergency Plan: <https://www.hamilton.ca/home-neighbourhood/emergency-services/emergency-preparedness>

3.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

INTERNAL CITY RESPONSE

The City of Hamilton will perform the Roles and Responsibilities outlined in the Community Heat Response Plan during Heat Warnings and Extreme Heat Warnings. Actions included in the Heat Response Strategy will be conducted by the assigned lead division/section teams.

COMMUNITY PARTNER RESPONSE

City of Hamilton staff will work with and support Community Partners participating in the City’s Heat Response.

4.0 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

CITY OF HAMILTON WORKING IN HOT WEATHER PROCEDURE

The City of Hamilton has Hot Weather Safety Guidelines⁵ that apply to City of Hamilton employees.

5.0 HEAT RESPONSE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATIONS

EVIDENCE AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Recommendations within the Heat Response Strategy have been identified using a variety of methods including “Adaptation Strategies for Reducing Extreme Heat Health Impacts: A Rapid Review”⁶, consultation with the Extreme Heat Working Group and actions previously identified from the Climate Change Impact Adaptation Plan.

⁵ Hot Weather Safety Guidelines: <http://www2.hamilton.ca//NR/HRFormsDocs/HEAT-STRESS-GUIDELINE.pdf>

⁶ The Institute of Health Economics, Albert Canada, *Adaptation Strategies for Reducing Extreme Heat Health Impacts: A Rapid Review*, <https://www.ihe.ca/advanced-search/adaptation-strategies-for-reducing-extreme-heat-health-impacts-a-rapid-review>

HEAT RESPONSE STRATEGY ACTIONS

Action Number	Strategy	Description	Status	Lead	Partners
1	Education and Outreach	Distribution of cooling items to educate and encourage individual heat adaptive behaviours. Engage public about risks of extreme heat and preventative measures. Distribution of educational materials. Education on how to prepare for extreme heat events. Information line provides resources available through telephone to general regarding risk and safety information. Distribution of water bottles and access to drinking water.	Already in Practice	Public Health Services	City Housing Hamilton, Public Works, Recreation, Hamilton Public Library, Various City Departments
2	Heat Warning Notification	Alerts issued to public to advise of heat warnings and extended heat warnings with heat safety tips.	Already in Practice	Public Health Services	Communications
3	Cool Places	Air-conditioned public spaces as well as public swims and spray pads to provide respite during heat warnings. Expansion of services to highest-risk population during heat warnings.	Already in Practice	Recreation, Hamilton Public Library	Public Works

Action Number	Strategy	Description	Status	Lead	Partners
4	Cooling and Energy Efficiency Support	<p>Subsidies and/or rebates for improving energy efficiency in homes or buildings. (i.e. Better Homes Hamilton Project Supports this).</p> <p>Advocacy to other levels of government to provide affordable and accessible cooling (e.g. application for an air conditioner) for at-risk people who qualify (e.g., based on income status and/or a prescribed medical need).</p> <p>Development of draft “Adequate Temperature By-Law”</p>	<p>Piloting</p> <p>Already in Practice</p>	<p>Planning and Economic Development (Office of Climate Change Initiatives)</p> <p>Ontario Works</p> <p>Licensing and By-Law Services</p>	Public Health Services
5	Vegetation Cover Expansion and Maintenance	Reducing artificial surfaces, through increasing vegetation in parking areas, alleyways, streets, and other infrastructure.	Already in Practice	Public Works, Planning and Economic Development	Public Health Services
*6	Wellness Check-Ins	Leveraging emergency and community services to assist at risk populations during heat events to provide welfare calls/check-ins.	New	Paramedics	Public Health Services

Action Number	Strategy	Description	Status	Lead	Partners
*7	Shade Structures	Installation of shade structures in areas identified using heat and equity mapping.	New	Public Works (Environmental Services)	Planning and Economic Development (Office of Climate Change Initiatives) Public Health Services
8	Heat-Related Illness Population Health Surveillance	Real-time surveillance of local population health data during the extreme heat season (i.e. Acute Care Enhanced Surveillance, Paramedic Data).	New	Public Health Services (Epidemiology and Evaluation)	Paramedics
*9	Misting stations	Installation of misting stations in identified priority locations.	New	Public Works (Environmental Services)	Planning and Economic Development (Office of Climate Change Initiatives), Public Health Services
*10	Transportation	Free or discounted transportation during heat warnings and extended heat warnings to cool places.	New	Public Works (Transit)	Public Health Services

*Pending Deliberations by General Issues Committee



Hamilton

CITY OF HAMILTON COMMUNITY HEAT RESPONSE PLAN

March 2024

Public Health Services

Healthy & Safe Communities Department

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Introduction

Hot weather can contribute to the development of heat related illness to the general population. Some groups, including seniors, young children, and people with pre-existing medical conditions, may be less able to cope and acclimatize to hot weather conditions, and are considered as having an increased risk of showing signs and symptoms of heat-related illness.

The City of Hamilton, in consultation with community partners, has developed the Community Heat Response Plan to help citizens cope with intense heat events. The Community Heat Response Plan (The Plan) alerts the public that hot weather conditions are imminent or occurring and outline services that will be provided to Hamilton residents. The goal is to provide support and information for those most at-risk of heat-related illness.

The heat season is typically between Victoria Day weekend thru Labour Day weekend annually, however, it is dependent on weather patterns. The Community Heat Response plan will be activated whenever the thresholds for a heat warning are met.

Background

This initiative was developed collaboratively by agencies in Hamilton, forming the Community Heat Response Committee in 2002. All agencies participating in the development of this initiative have agreed to voluntarily provide services during a Heat Warning or an Extended Heat Warning. Since the introduction of the Plan in 2008 several heat events have tested the effectiveness of existing services and the merit of the Plan. The Plan has proved to be successful in helping citizens safely respond to these events.

Purpose

The Plan provides a framework for the coordination and implementation of hot weather response activities aimed at reducing the impact of intense heat events on the population.

Plan Review and Maintenance

The Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis. Prior to the heat season, the Community Heat Response Committee meets to review The Plan, adjust any operational details and update contact information and committee partners, as needed. Following each heat season, the Community Heat Response Committee meets in order to debrief on challenges, concerns and successes identified during the heat season and to provide recommendations for improvements to the Plan.

In 2023, Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division is responsible for the maintenance of The Plan and oversight of the Community Heat Response Committee.

Pre-Heat Season Activities

Prior to each heat season the Community Heat Response Committee will:

- Meet to ensure that Community Heat Response Committee members understand signs and symptoms of heat-related illness and that each partner agency has their own heat response plan and/or understands their operational role during a Heat Warning, or Extended Heat Warning;
- Distribute a promotional materials order form to internal and community partners to be returned to Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division for ordering;
- Update contact list of Community Heat Response Committee members and community partners to receive notifications of Heat Warnings and Extended Heat Warnings;

Prior to each heat season Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division will:

- Provide heat-related illness information sessions for applicable City departments and community partners;
- Distribute promotional awareness information materials to City and community partners as requested;
- Update the “Rave Alert” notification system list of City and community partners for communicating Heat Warnings and Extended Heat Warnings.

Concept of Operations – Thresholds to Activate the Heat Response Plan

The Plan consists of three stages: Heat Warning, Extended Heat Warning, and a stand-down stage. Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division monitors Environment Canada's temperature and humidex forecasts during the summer months. If it is determined that a response is required, cool place operators, community agencies, and the public are notified, and response action undertaken as outlined below.

Heat Warning

A Heat Warning is issued when there are two or more consecutive days forecasted with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and nighttime lows greater than or equal to 20°C **or** a Humidex of 40°C or greater.

When a Heat Warning is issued the following actions are undertaken:

- Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division sends out notification of the Heat Warning via the “Rave Alert” messaging system to community partners and external stakeholders as well as an internal email notification of the Heat Warning to internal partners and local media;
- Scheduled Open swims will be free of charge, at indoor and outdoor pools (capacity limits in effect as per Public Health Guidelines);
- Participating City and community partners offer spaces as ‘cooling places’;
- Recreation “Supie” Programs will remain operational but modify program to a more passive nature;
- Mobile water distribution by the Salvation Army in downtown core.

Extended Heat Warning

An Extended Heat Warning is issued when there are three or more consecutive days observed with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and nighttime lows greater than or equal to 20°C **or** a Humidex of 40°C or greater.

When an Extended Heat Warning is issued the following actions are undertaken:

- Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division sends out notification of the Extended Heat Warning event via the “Rave Alert” messaging system to community partners and external stakeholders as well as an internal email notification to internal partners and local media;
- Activation of the City Emergency Operations Centre may occur if there is a need to discuss further interventions. Note: only members of the Emergency Operations Centre Management Team may request the activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (virtual activation could be considered);
- Public Health Services will monitor and assess surveillance data from hospitals and health sector agencies with respect to any community health impact;

- The Community Heat Response Committee Chair will send an email to the members during business hours each day in an Extended Heat Warning, to facilitate the sharing of operational data. Emergencies that occur outside of Monday to Friday business hours are directed to the attention of Public Health Services and the on-call Communications staff or in accordance with the Community Partner's internal procedure;
- Scheduled Open swims will be free of charge at indoor and outdoor pools (capacity limits in effect as per Public Health Guidelines);
- All wading pools (except Dundas Driving Park) are closed during an Extended Heat Warning. Community members can visit an indoor/outdoor pool or spray pad;
- Recreation's "Supie" Programs will remain operational but modify programming to a more passive nature;
- Mobile water distribution by the Salvation Army in downtown core.

Stand Down

When the conditions of a Heat Warning or Extended Heat Warning break and are no longer met, a Stand Down is initiated.

When the Stand Down is called the following actions are undertaken:

- Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division issues a cancellation notification of the Heat Warning or the Extended Heat Warning to staff, community partners, external stakeholders and local media;
- All City and community partner agencies return to normal operating procedures.

Roles and Responsibilities

Healthy & Safe Communities Department

Public Health Services

- Schedule and facilitate meetings of the Community Heat Response Committee;
- Monitor weather forecasts and communications from Environment Canada for Heat Warnings and Extended Heat Warnings to be issued;
- Send out notifications of the Heat Warning or Extended Heat Warning via internal email to staff, other internal partners, and local media. Notify external partners and stakeholders via "Rave Alert" notification system;

- Update stage status on City website (www.hamilton.ca/heat) to reflect current stage of the plan;
- Print and distribute promotional awareness information material to community partners as requested;
- Respond to media requests related to the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness;
- Communicate with Community Heat Response Committee partners during an Extended Heat Warning to learn of any concerns and/or opportunities related to the Heat Response Plan for review and discussion among the Community Heat Response Committee members.

Recreation

- Operate select City-owned recreation centres as cool places;
- Post “Cool Down Here” and “Tips for Beating the Heat” signs in visible locations at recreation centres for the duration of the heat season;
- Scheduled Open swims will be free of charge at indoor and outdoor pools during Heat Warning and Extended Heat Warning (capacity limits in effect as per Public Health Guidelines);
- Suspend outdoor recreation programs and wading pools when appropriate;
- Respond to media inquiries related to recreation facilities and related programming.

Paramedic Service

- Through social media, send heat related information and tips to keep cool for the general public;
- Respond to health-related issues where appropriate;
- Increase staffing as required.

Public Works Department

Parks and Cemeteries

- Extend splash pad hours of operations, as required;
- Ensure drinking water fountains are operational and information re: locations is updated on the City website.

City Manager's Office

Communications

- Triage internal and external communications related to media enquiries and distribute proactive communications on social media channels;
- Update information on the City's website (<https://www.hamilton.ca/heat>) regarding, cool tips, cool places, etc.

Human Resources

- Distribute information via email to staff with respect to employee health and wellness during extreme heat episodes;
- Handle all employee work refusal issues related to heat;
- Incorporate Heat and Sun Safety and Ultraviolet Radiation Guidelines into orientation sessions where applicable.

Hamilton Public Library

- Libraries branches will act as 'cooling' places for residents during regular business hours.

Community Partners - "Cooling" Place Agencies

- Operate as a cool place for the public or clientele;
- Distribute information to the public;
- Post "Cool Down Here" and "Tips to Beat the Heat" signs in visible locations for the duration of the heat season;
- Liaise with Public Health Services – Healthy Environments Division staff regarding heat impacts to their clientele;
- Salvation Army –mobile water distribution, as required.



Hamilton

HEAT RESPONSE STRATEGY

Public Health Committee

April 29, 2024

BOH24010

Background

- The City of Hamilton Climate Science Report predicts that the number of consecutive days that the temperature rises above 30°C will increase and that heat waves, defined as three days or more where the temperature is over 30°C or 40 on the humidex scale, will be more frequent, as well as, temperatures over 35°C.
- In May 2023, Public Health Services indicated it would bring more information regarding a Community Heat Response Strategy 2024-2027 for the City of Hamilton in Q1 2024.
- Ten Heat Response Strategy actions were identified via research evidence, consultation and engagement with staff across relevant City divisions
- Five of the identified heat response actions are already in practice
- Five of the identified actions are “new” for Committee’s consideration
- The Heat Response Strategy aligns with mandated work for Public Health Services as outlined in the Ontario Public Health Standards’ “Healthy Environments” program standard.

Consultation

- Throughout the development of the Community Heat Response Strategy, consultation and engagement was carried-out with staff across relevant City divisions
- Public Health Services expanded on the Extreme Heat Working Group that was initiated during a former Public Health Services extreme heat project
- The Extreme Heat Working group includes internal City staff as well as local community partners providing services to individuals disproportionately impacted by extreme heat
- The Extreme Heat Working Group met monthly and discussed actions and recommendations in the Community Heat Response Strategy

Extreme Heat Working Group Members

- Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN)
- Accessibility Committee for Persons with Disabilities
- Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity
- City Housing Hamilton
- City of Hamilton, Housing Services
- City of Hamilton, Office of Climate Change Initiatives
- City of Hamilton, Parks and Cemeteries
- City of Hamilton, Public Health Services
- City of Hamilton, Recreation
- Environment Hamilton
- Hamilton 350
- Hamilton and District Apartment Association
- Hamilton Community Legal Clinic
- Hamilton Public Library
- Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction
- Hamilton Street Railway (HSR)
- Native Women's Centre
- Salvation Army
- Seniors Advisory Committee
- Victoria Order of Nurses (VON)
- Wesley
- YWCA History

At-Risk Populations

- Extreme heat puts everyone at risk of heat-related illness, however some individuals are at increased risk, including:
 - Those age 65 years and older;
 - Young children;
 - People with chronic medical conditions; and,
 - People who work and are active outdoors.
- Public Health Services uses Heat and Vulnerability Mapping to determine areas where citizens are at highest risk of heat-related illness
- The Community Heat Response Strategy Actions are targeted to protect individuals at highest risk of heat-related illness

Heat and Vulnerability Mapping



Université Laval's Heat Map: <https://vaguesdechaleur.ffgg.ulaval.ca/en/>

Existing Actions

1	Education and Outreach	Distribution of cooling items to educate and encourage individual heat adaptive behaviours. Public engagement and education. Distribution of educational materials. Distribution of water bottles and access to drinking water.
2	Heat Warning Notification	Alerts issued to public to advise of heat warnings and extended heat warnings with heat safety tips.
3	Cool Places	Air-conditioned public spaces as well as public swims and spray pads to provide respite during heat warnings. Expansion of services to highest-risk population during heat warnings.
4	Cooling and Energy Efficiency Support	Subsidies and/or rebates for improving energy efficiency in homes or buildings. (i.e. Better Homes Hamilton Project Supports this).
		Advocacy to other levels of government to provide affordable and accessible cooling (e.g. application for an air conditioner) for at-risk people who qualify (e.g., based on income status and/or a prescribed medical need).
		Adequate Temperature By-Law Development.
5	Vegetation Cover Expansion and Maintenance	Reducing artificial surfaces, through increasing vegetation in parking areas, alleyways, streets, and other infrastructure.

“New” Actions

6*	Wellness Check-Ins	Leveraging emergency and community services to assist at risk populations during heat events to provide welfare calls/check-ins.
7*	Shade Structures	Installation of shade structures in areas identified using heat and equity mapping.
8	Heat-Related Illness Population Health Surveillance	Real-time surveillance of local population health data during the extreme heat season (i.e. Acute Care Enhanced Surveillance, Paramedic Data).
9*	Misting stations	Installation of misting stations in identified priority locations.
10*	Transportation	Free or discounted, reliable transportation during heat warnings and extended heat warnings to cool places.

*Pending Deliberations by General Issues Committee

Next Steps

- Public Health Services, in collaboration with partners, will conduct further consultation and engagement with at-risk communities to determine how to best deliver services moving forward
- Continue to work with community partners to identify gaps and align actions and services with the needs of the community
- Implement Committee/Council-approved newly identified actions



Hamilton

THANK YOU