

CITY OF HAMILTON

HAMILTON EMERGENCY SERVICES
Emergency Medical Services

TO: Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: January 18, 2012	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Resolution from Region of Peel Respecting Bystander Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (HES12002) (City Wide)	
SUBMITTED BY: Brent Browett Director, Emergency Medical Services Hamilton Emergency Services	PREPARED BY: Brent Browett (905) 546-2424 ext. 7741
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Mayor correspond with the Minister of Education, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, and the Minister of Finance to request that the ministries adopt the measures proposed by "Physicians and Paramedics Urging Lifesaving Education" to increase bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) (attached as Appendix A to Report HES12002).
- (b) That staff be directed to include in the Hamilton Emergency Services, Emergency Medical Services 2012, 2013 and 2014 business plans, activities that promote an increase in the number of persons in the community trained to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques.
- (c) That staff be directed to report to the Emergency & Community Services Committee no less than once annually with respect to training members of the community to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation techniques as well as the frequency of bystander cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in the setting of witnessed sudden cardiac arrest in the community.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There have been increasing efforts provincially and nationally to expand CPR training to more Canadians. The medical advisor for the Region of Peel, Dr. Cheskes, noted in an August 10, 2011 council report that, “the chance of survival when bystander CPR is performed is four times greater than if no CPR is performed”. Recently, the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) endorsed a position statement on Bystander Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) that highlights the supporting evidence and the CAEP recommendations on how to increase the rate of bystander CPR by adding CPR instruction to the high school curriculum, creating new related tax incentives and, through a national awareness campaign (see Appendix A for more details).

On September 22, 2011 the Peel Regional Council approved a resolution that included instructions for the Regional Chair to write to the Minister of Education, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and to the Minister of Finance on behalf of Regional Council, to request that their ministries adopt the measures proposed to increase bystander CPR by the "Physicians and Paramedics Urging Lifesaving Education".

Staff is recommending that Hamilton City Council sends similar correspondence to the same provincial government representatives, and that it endorses the local efforts of Hamilton Emergency Medical Service (EMS) to improve the awareness and rates of Bystander CPR.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for Recommendation(s) only)

Financial:

Staff will use existing financial resources to achieve results including the distribution of training material where appropriate.

Staffing:

Hamilton EMS will use existing staffing resources to achieve results.

Legal:

None

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

Primary prevention of heart disease through heart healthy living is supported and promoted by Hamilton Public Health Services with the Hamilton Paramedic Service as the principal means for Hamiltonians to prevent death from heart disease. However when heart disease does occur, secondary prevention measures such as Bystander CPR and Public Access Defibrillation are proven to improve survival. For the past three (3) years the Hamilton Paramedic Service has made significant progress in promoting staff and public awareness in Bystander CPR and Public Access Defibrillation.

At least four (4) times a year Hamilton EMS hosts a CPR blitz, each time moving to a different ward of the City and training up to 100 persons on each occasion. In addition, with the introduction of the City-wide Public Access Defibrillation program, Hamilton EMS has facilitated CPR and Public Access Defibrillation orientation to over 1400 City staff in the past three (3) years.

The recent changes to CPR that make it simpler and more likely for the bystander to perform CPR, along with the Canadian Emergency Physicians campaign to improve the rates of Bystander CPR, lend itself to Hamilton EMS increasing its focus in this area and leveraging on the work already underway by others.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Hamilton Municipal Medical Advisor supports the recommendations in this report.

Hamilton Public Health Medical Officer of Health supports responsible initiatives that improve 'bystander CPR'.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

As noted there are no new financial, staffing, legal or policy implications inherent in the recommendations as written. This is an endorsement for Hamilton EMS to focus in this area in this term of Council. The potential con of the recommendations is that it could result in other interest and/or projects being postponed in order to fulfil the need of increasing Bystander CPR awareness.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Focus Areas: 1. Skilled, Innovative and Respectful Organization, 2. Financial Sustainability, 3. Intergovernmental Relationships, 4. Growing Our Economy, 5. Social Development, 6. Environmental Stewardship, 7. Healthy Community

The following objectives apply to this initiative.

Skilled, Innovative & Respectful Organization

- ◆ A culture of excellence
- ◆ A skilled, adaptive and diverse workforce, i.e. more flexible staff
- ◆ More innovation, greater teamwork, better client focus
- ◆ An enabling work environment - respectful culture, well-being and safety, effective communication

Financial Sustainability

- ◆ Delivery of municipal services and management capital assets/liabilities in a sustainable, innovative and cost effective manner

Intergovernmental Relationships

- ◆ Influence federal and provincial policy development to benefit Hamilton
- ◆ Maintain effective relationships with other public agencies

Growing Our Economy

- ◆ An improved customer service
- ◆ A visitor and convention destination

Social Development

- ◆ Residents in need have access to adequate support services
- ◆ People participate in all aspects of community life without barriers or stigma

Healthy Community

- ◆ Plan and manage the built environment
- ◆ An engaged Citizenry
- ◆ Adequate access to food, water, shelter and income, safety, work, recreation and support for all (Human Services)

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

Appendix “A” – As extracted from the Region of Peel August 10, 2011 Report on Bystander CPR

As extracted from the Region of Peel August 10, 2011 Report on Bystander CPR

a) Evidence Supporting Bystander CPR

BYSTANDER CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION

- Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in North America;
- Most heart attacks (60 per cent) occur outside of the hospital setting. 85 per cent of these heart attacks happen at home. Approximately half of these heart attacks are witnessed by a bystander;
- For half of all heart attack victims, the cardiac arrest is the first sign of cardiovascular disease; and
- Overall survival to hospital discharge for out of hospital cardiac arrest victims is improved where CPR is attempted.

The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians calls for strong inducements and a systematic approach to ensure that more people in the community are prepared and are ready to perform this life saving skill.

b) Provincial Advocacy to Increase Bystander CPR

The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians made recommendations on how to increase CPR education through high school curriculum, through tax incentives and through a national campaign to advance the cause of bystander CPR. These recommendations have been adopted by a provincial coalition of emergency physicians and paramedics called "Physicians and Paramedics Urging Lifesaving Education". This coalition's goal is to have Ontario take the lead on bystander CPR through the following policy initiatives:

- That the Ministry of Education require all Grade 12 students to complete a Heart and Stroke Foundation Heartsaver Basic CPR course or equivalent to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diploma; and
- That the Ministry of Finance implement individual tax rebates to individuals who complete a CPR course and a corporate tax rebate for businesses that train employees in CPR.

With respect to CPR training being mandatory for high school graduation, the Ministry of Education has indicated that making CPR training a mandatory requirement for graduation is not being considered. However, this Ministry plans to strengthen the curriculum on this issue through new teacher tools that emphasize the values of CPR training.

The Ontario Children's Activity Tax Credit assists parents with the cost of enrolling children in physical and other eligible activities, including CPR courses.

Provisions in the *Good Samaritan Act, 2001* provide legal protection for persons providing first aid assistance to a person in an emergency.