

## Request to Speak to a Committee of Council

4.14

If your request is for a specific committee meeting, this form must be received by NOON the day before the scheduled committee meeting. Requests for Monday meetings must be received the Friday before the meeting. Requests for meetings scheduled for the day after a statutory holiday must be received the last business day before the meeting.

### Standing Committee Requested

Kindly indicate which Standing Committee: \*

Board of Health



### Requestor Information

Name of Individual: \*

Tim Button

Name of Organization:

Do you or your organization represent a lobbyist (voluntary)

☐ Yes

☒ No

Contact Number: \*

289-698-6800

Email Address: \*

w.t.button@hotmail.com

Mailing Address: \*

Unit 9, 3Rd Floor, 87 John Street, Hamilton, Ont. L8N 2C2

Reason(s) for delegation request: \*

Concerned about fluoridation in our public water which discriminates those living in poverty and is a health issue. I sent by mistake the wrong draft so I sent you my final copy in this request. I forgot to mention in my first submission on requesting to speak on Monday April 18th Board of Health Meeting and I would prefer that I speak on this issue after any other group has spoken on the same or near the end. If you could e-mail instead of calling my cell I would be grateful but if you need to call then please do. I pasted my speech below and I hope it is alright. Thank you.

Fluoridation Discriminates Against Those Living In Poverty Mayor Bratina and Board of Health Members: I would like to thank everyone for giving me the chance to present this very important issue of how Fluoridation Discriminates Against Those Living In Poverty. I have taken a serious look at the issue of water fluoridation and have come to the conclusion that it has not been proven safe and that many people are overexposed. I am convinced that this is not a good choice for all Canadians especially those living in poverty. I am one of thousands of Hamiltonians living in poverty and I have a right to voice against such an unjust measure. Here are the Facts that will back up my view: Fact #1: Low income people cannot afford bottled water or water treatment in-home systems that would remove fluoride, especially when our basic living costs often outweigh our income. And there are no increases in our new budgets for people living in poverty. For these reasons I view fluoridation as a forced medication because tap water is.. my.. only.. choice! Fact #2: Over exposure of this drug, (that is not an essential medication), especially over a lifetime, can lead to several health conditions for which much research is available. I'll just touch on one health effect which is osteoporosis. Health Canada's newest Report on Fluoridation included 12 studies on hip fracture and 7 of them showed an increase in this disease in fluoridated communities. This costs the health care system millions of dollars and fills up our much needed hospital beds. Fact #3: We need to give informed consent to any medication. Since no one can prove to me that this drug will not harm me in any way, then I'm not giving my consent to take it. Why should I be forced to accept this? The Public Health Department of this city states fluoridation is needed to reduce tooth decay, especially in Hamilton because of high rates of poverty. They think that fluoridation is the great equalizer between middle class and low income people. They say they get their information from the best research so let's look at some of it. The York Review, UK 2000 The most credible and thorough review of water fluoridation, in the world, is still the York Review from the UK. It found a very small benefit (only 15%) to water fluoridation, but the Chair of the Review, Professor Trevor Sheldon, later revealed the evidence was mostly poor quality. A quote from 4 scientists who did the review commenting on the effectiveness of fluoridation at reducing inequalities in dental health across social groups said this... "the evidence is weak, contradictory and unreliable." Drinking Water in Canada, University of Calgary, April 2011 One of the newest reviews in Canada is from the

University of Calgary from April 2011, funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada and it makes this comment about Oral health inequities: "Considering that one of the main arguments put forth for continuing fluoridation is that it is a practical and effective way to provide fluoride to all (including those who cannot afford or access dental care and other sources of fluoride), we detected a surprising lack of research on the implications of drinking water fluoridation for inequities in oral health in Canada." So you can see from the best research and the most recent Canadian research that fluoridating water for low income people in Canada has no merit. Any statement that it does help us, is not based on science and, Mr. Mayor and Councillors... we need you to understand that. Water is a basic human right and from new born babies, to seniors, to disabled persons, to low income persons we deserve the best.

Will you be submitting a formal presentation?\*

☐ Yes

☒ No

Requests to speak to Council are forwarded to the Standing Committee for consideration. Once considered by Committee, and approved, you will be notified of the date for your presentation.

This form is not for the purpose of presenting unsolicited proposals by Vendors to Committee. Such proposals are subject to a competitive process as required by the City's Purchasing Policy.

Personal information collected on this form is authorized under Section 5.10(2) of the City's Procedural By-law No. 10-053 for the purpose of contacting individuals and/or organizations requesting an opportunity to appear as a delegation before a Standing Committee and will be published with the Committee Agenda. The Voluntary Lobbyist Registry is a public document and will be available for viewing in the City Clerk's office. The Procedural By-law is a requirement of Section 238(2) of the Municipal Act. Questions about its collection can be directed to the Manager, Legislative Services / Deputy Clerk, City Hall, 71 Main St. W., Hamilton, ON L8P 4Y5 (905 546-2424 ext. 4304).