

**CITY OF HAMILTON**

**MOTION**

**Board of Health Date: July 10, 2014**

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR B. MCHATTIE.....**

**SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR.....**

**A Request for Ongoing Funding for the Expanded Community Health Educator/Navigator Approach to Health Care**

WHEREAS, two in five Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetime and one in four will die of the disease;

AND WHEREAS, Public Health Services (PHS) is mandated to address lung, breast, cervix, colorectal and skin cancers through promotion of healthy eating, physical activity, and tobacco free living, protection again ultraviolet radiation exposure and other protective behaviours;

AND WHEREAS, having regular cancer screening tests for breast, cervix and colorectal cancer saves lives;

AND WHEREAS, some populations in the City of Hamilton (COH) face barriers to accessing cancer screening, including language, disability, low income, resulting in later stage diagnosis, limited treatment options and poor prognosis;

AND WHEREAS, the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network (HNHB LHIN) has identified assistance with health system navigation as a priority, especially for people facing such barriers;

AND WHEREAS, the HNHB LHIN has shown its commitment to collaborate with the COH by funding a Community of Practice for Navigation in 2014;

AND WHEREAS, PHS has developed a successful Community Health Educator/Navigator (CHEN) approach to help address barriers and empower people to obtain health services such as cancer screening tests;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

- (a) That staff from Public Health Services be directed to develop a business case to present the benefits, operational logistics, financial implications, staffing requirements, and return on investment of implementing an expanded Community Health Educator/Navigator approach within the City of Hamilton; and,
- (b) That the Mayor, on behalf of the Board of Health and Council, request ongoing funding for the expanded Community Health Educator/Navigator approach from the Honourable Rona Ambrose, Minister of Health, the Minister of Health and Long Term Care and the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant Local Health Integration Network.