



**CITY OF HAMILTON**  
**Public Health Services**  
**Office of the Medical Officer of Health**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members General Issues Committee
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	February 26, 2016
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	One-Time Program Based Grant Funding Requests to the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care – (BOH16013) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Jennifer Vickers Manzin 905-546-2424, Ext. 4888
<b>SUBMITTED BY &amp; SIGNATURES:</b>	Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services Department

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Medical Officer of Health be authorized and direct to submit requests for one-time 100% funding for 2016 of \$722,360 gross, \$0 net through the Program Based Grant budget process of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care for the projects and initiatives described in Report BOH16013.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) annually invites boards of health (BOH) to request one-time funding through the 2016 Program Based Grant (PBG) process for a range of projects and initiatives that support the delivery of mandatory and related programs. Guidelines and templates for the requests were received from the Province in late January.

The deadline for submitting the 2016 Program-Based one-time funding requests and supporting documentation is March 1, 2016.

Public Health Services (PHS) proposes that the BOH approve submission of one-time funding requests in the amount of \$722,360 gross for the following programs and initiatives:

1. Smoke-Free Ontario Expanded Smoking Cessation Programming for Priority Populations
2. Immunization of School Pupils Act Regulatory Amendments Implementation
3. Raccoon Rabies:
  - a. Inspection & Investigations related to Raccoon Rabies Strain in Hamilton
  - b. Health Promotion for Raccoon Rabies Strain

Staff will report back to the BOH on the Ministry's decisions related to these requests when the decisions are received.

***Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 4***

**FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for recommendation(s) only)**

Financial: The guidelines for 2016 PBG one-time funding requests advise that requests must not be assumed, and will be dependent upon the availability of Ministry funding. A total of \$722,360 gross, \$0 net are being requested as follows:

1. Smoke-Free Ontario Expanded Smoking Cessation Programming for Priority Populations (\$25,000)
2. Immunization of School Pupils Act Regulatory Amendments Implementation (\$336,000)
3. Raccoon Rabies:
  - a. Inspection & Investigations related to Raccoon Rabies Strain in Hamilton (\$198,360)
  - b. Health Promotion for Raccoon Rabies Strain (\$163,000)

Staffing: The following additional temporary staff will be required to implement these initiatives as follows:

1. Immunization of School Pupils Act Regulatory Amendments Implementation – 2.0 FTE Records clerk; 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse
2. Inspection & Investigations related to Raccoon Rabies Strain in Hamilton – 2.0 FTE Public Health Inspectors.

Legal: there are no new legal implications related to this request.

### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)**

- Boards of health have an opportunity to request one-time funding from the MOHLTC annually through the 2016 PBG process for a range of projects and initiatives that support the delivery of mandatory and related programs.
- One-time funding is time limited.
- One-time funding requests approved by the Ministry can be provided as 100% provincially funded, or cost shared on a 75% provincial/25% municipal basis. The City of Hamilton Public Health Services' 2016 one-time funding requests are all for 100% provincial funding.
- One-time funding requests are evaluated by the MOHLTC based on established general criteria outlined in the 2016 Program-Based Grants User Guide.
- One-time funding requests are to be submitted to the MOHLTC by the due date of the 2016 PBG Request: March 1, 2016. There are provisions to apply for other extraordinary costs or events later in the year if necessary.
- Submissions for one-time PBG funding requests require the Board of Health's approval.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS**

No policy implications.

### **RELEVANT CONSULTATION**

Not applicable.

### **ANALYSIS AND RATIONAL FOR RECOMMENDATION (Include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data if applicable)**

PHS proposes to apply to the MOHLTC for one-time funding requests (at 100%) in 2016 for the following programs and initiatives:

1. Smoke-Free Ontario Expanded Smoking Cessation Programming for Priority Populations (\$25,000)

PHS operates a quit smoking clinic that offers one-on-one counselling and access to free nicotine replacement therapy (NRT). This project is necessary to increase and further support cessation by motivating and assisting people to quit tobacco use. These one-time funds will fund NRT within Hamilton PHS' Quit Smoking Clinic. This project will increase service delivery by expanding reach and access to clinic services and stop smoking medications.

2. Immunization of School Pupils Act Regulatory Amendments Implementation (\$336,000)

Regulatory amendments under the Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA) – including three additional designated diseases for which immunization is required to attend school – became effective on July 1, 2014. These one-time funds will enhance supports in the form of staffing and operational supplies that are required to implement the regulatory amendments and ensure students meet new immunization requirements.

3. Raccoon Rabies Strain in Hamilton

a. Inspections & Investigations (\$198,360) - In late 2015, Hamilton was identified with positive raccoon rabies strain in raccoons and now skunks. PHS staff are required to investigate each report of rabies to ensure that human exposure is ruled out; ensure any domestic exposures are reported to appropriate agencies, educate those finding rabid animals and remind residents to vaccinate pets. Staff will continue to develop and disseminate medical advisories, media advisories, update webpages and various other media to keep the public informed as required by the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS), “The board of health shall work with community partners to improve public knowledge of rabies and its prevention in the community...”

b. Health Promotion for Raccoon Rabies (\$163,000) - Based on the epidemiology in the wildlife population, raccoon rabies is well established in Hamilton and there is a need to develop a large public awareness campaign to remind residents and visitors to avoid contact with wild animals, report sick animals, vaccinate pets and report suspected rabid animal exposures. This campaign will include mail out resources, posters, television and radio announcements, signage at popular parks, trails and leash free areas, movie theatre messaging, and educational resources for many targeted groups within our community.

## **ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION**

**(Include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and Pros and Cons for each alternative)**

The Board of Health could choose not to apply for funding offered through the MOHLTC One-Time PBG Funding Requests, which would mean these resources would not be available to support the programs and initiatives outlined in this report.

**Financial:** This alternative would forego up to \$772,360 gross in provincial funding during the current year from the MOHLTC, and result in financial and program pressures related to these initiatives.

**Staffing:** Temporary staffing increases may continue to be required in order to meet the program demands.

Legal: These initiatives are requirements under the Ontario Public Health Standards, and in the case of the immunization program, the Immunization of School Pupils Act.

Policy Implications: No new policy implications

Pros: No pros

Cons: Choosing not to apply for funding represents a lost opportunity to effectively address operational and staff costs related to a range of projects and initiatives that support the delivery of mandatory and related programs, as outlined in this report.

## **ALIGNMENT TO THE 2012 – 2015 STRATEGIC PLAN**

### **Strategic Priority #1**

A Prosperous & Healthy Community

*WE enhance our image, economy and well-being by demonstrating that Hamilton is a great place to live, work, play and learn.*

### **Strategic Objective**

- 1.5 Support the development and implementation of neighbourhood and City wide strategies that will improve the health and well-being of residents.

## **APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Not Applicable