



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Board of Health
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 4, 2017
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Equity for Trans and Gender Diverse People in Health Care BOH17044 (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	Michelle Baird (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3529
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Michelle Baird Director, Planning and Business Improvement Acting Director, Communicable Disease Control & Wellness Public Health Services Department
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

## Council Direction:

At the September 18, 2017 meeting of the Board of Health, members approved a motion regarding Equity for Trans and Gender Diverse People in Regional Health Care, including:

- (a) That a letter be sent to the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) for advice on how the regional health care system ought to address specific obstacles to equality facing trans and gender non-conforming people in regional health care;
- (b) That Public Health Staff consult with the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition for advice on the contents of the letter;
- (c) That the letter, based on advice from the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition, ask the LHIN for its feedback on immediate, medium and long-term next steps that might be taken toward the goal of trans equality in local health care, particularly in the spheres of health professional awareness-raising and capacity-building, and making public health care spaces gender-affirming;
- (d) That the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition, the medical and nursing faculties of McMaster University, and the AIDS Network be invited to co-sign the letter, should they so choose;

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*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.*

- (e) That a copy of the letter be forwarded to the Board of Hamilton Health Sciences, and St. Joseph's Healthcare for information purposes; and,
- (f) That the letter be dated and sent on November 20, 2017, the Transgender Day of Remembrance, with the first sentence of the letter being "I am writing to you today, the Transgender Day of Remembrance – a day memorializing trans and gender-non conforming people murdered as a result of transphobia – in order to ask for your advice, feedback, and help".

This information report details the response to the above direction. Item (HH) on the Outstanding Business list can now be removed.

**Information:**

On November 20, 2017, the Transgender Day of Remembrance, a letter was sent to the Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant (HNHB) Local Health Integration Network (LHIN), Appendix A to this report. The content of the letter was informed through consultation with the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition.

The letter was intended to draw attention to the health inequities experienced by trans and gender-diverse people in Hamilton and ask for the advice and assistance of the HNHB LHIN in eliminating the inequity that is experienced by trans and gender-diverse people in local health care, and in building Hamilton's capacity to provide them with high-quality health care. The letter asked for attention to be given to immediate, medium and long-term next steps aimed at achieving the goal of trans equity in local health care, particularly in the spheres of health professional awareness-raising and capacity-building, and making public health care spaces gender-affirming.

The letter was sent on behalf of the Board of Health and signed by the Hamilton Trans Health Coalition, Hamilton Health Sciences, and the AIDS Network-Hamilton, Haldimand, Norfolk and Brant) as a show of support for the subject and recognition of the issue at hand. St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton sent a letter of support, which accompanied the letter sent from the Board of Health and McMaster University also sent an independent letter of support.

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Appendix A to Report BOH17044 – Letter to LHIN Re: Transgender Healthcare Issues