



# INFORMATION REPORT

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Board of Health
<b>COMMITTEE DATE:</b>	December 4, 2017
<b>SUBJECT/REPORT NO:</b>	Informed Decisions Empowering Adolescents (IDEAs) – Update BOH16059(a) (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City Wide
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## **Council Direction:**

On December 5, 2016, Board of Health (BOH) received the recommendation report Informed Decisions Empowering Adolescents (IDEAs)(BOH16059). The BOH endorsed the renewal of the IDEAs Program funding from Impact Education Consulting beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2017.

## **Information:**

The IDEAs Program has been funded since 1998 as per a Council approved recommendation to pilot this program as one of the initiatives to promote the healthy sexuality of youth in Hamilton. Impact Education Consulting, produces and organizes the IDEAs Program within selected schools. The IDEAs program trains secondary school aged students to deliver peer to peer curriculum to Grade 8 students. IDEAs is comprised of three topic sessions focused on high school culture, substance misuse, and sexuality. Public Health Services (PHS) School Program has allocated 0.3 FTE of Public Health Nurse (PHN) resource to the co-coordination and support for IDEAs program delivery.

On June 22, 2017, the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) provided PHS written notice to discontinue the IDEAs program in their schools. At the HWDSB's request, the decision to cease IDEAs programming took effect in July 2017.

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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.*

Though HWDSB acknowledged the theory and concept of the IDEAs Program is relevant, their internal system already supports this work. Therefore, according to the HWDSB, the IDEAs Program is considered a duplication of service. BOH was notified via email on July 12, 2017 of the HWDSB's decision. At the request of Dr. Deanna Behnke-Cook of Impact Education Consulting, PHS senior leadership facilitated a meeting with the HWDSB August 28, 2017 to review the rationale for this decision. HWDSB has ensured this decision and direction has been communicated to staff within their board.

PHS has contracted with Impact Education Consulting to offer IDEAs programming to Grade 8 students in the HWDSB and the French Public School Board (Conseil scolaire Viamonde) (CSViamonde), and the French Catholic School Board (Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir) (CSC MonAvenir). IDEAs programming will continue for the remainder of 2017 as negotiated with the four CSViamonde and CSC MonAvenir schools.

Impact Education Consulting has approached the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSB) to consider initiating IDEAs within their school board. As of this report, there has been no formal decision from the HWCDSB related to IDEAs communicated to PHS.

PHS plans to extend the current contract with Impact Education Consulting to March 31, 2018 to allow for continued service delivery in the French language school boards. PHS will report back to BOH in the first quarter of 2018 to provide an update on IDEAs programming in the HWCDSB and make recommendations for moving forward.