

CITY OF HAMILTON MOTION

Council: May 9, 2018

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR J. FARR.....

SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....

Request for Hospital Space to Address the Current Opioid (and other drug) Overdose Crisis in Hamilton

WHEREAS, The Federal Government has granted permission for supervised consumption sites in order to address the current crisis respecting opioid (and other) drug addictions;

WHEREAS, The Province of Ontario is accepting applications for overdose prevention sites from across the Province and the City of Hamilton;

WHEREAS, Council, on the 8th of December, 2017 approved the recommendations respecting Supervised Injection Sites in report BOH17004(b);

WHEREAS, Since Council's approval, the Province has approved the process of granting SIS (and now OPS) sites in this and other Ontario cities;

WHEREAS, Notwithstanding the 75 deaths due to opioid overdoses in Hamilton from January to October 2017 and that this tragic statistic exceeds the Provincial average by 78 percent, local landlords appear to be reluctant in granting permission to outside organizations to house supervised consumption sites; and

WHEREAS, Provincially managed hospitals may be seen as the safest sites to operate supervised consumption sites.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the appropriate staff from Public Health be requested as a priority to engage with both Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Hospital on the feasibility of housing a supervised consumption site in their hospital(s), as a means of addressing the opioid (and other drug) overdose crisis in Hamilton.