



Office of the City Clerk

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November 8, 2017

***Via email***

To all Municipalities in Ontario with populations greater than 40,000:

Dear Sirs/Madames:

**RE: Kingston City Council Meeting, November 7, 2017 – Motion Regarding Naloxone**

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At the regular meeting of Kingston City Council held on November 7, 2017, Council approved the following resolution, as amended, requesting that all municipalities in Ontario, with a population greater than 40,000, consider indicating their support for this most important initiative:

**Whereas** opioids, include hydromorphone, oxycodone, fentanyl, carfentanyl, morphine, and heroin are a class of drug used primarily for pain relief; and

**Whereas** Canada is among the top prescribers of opioids in the world, and Ontario has the highest opioid-dispensing rates in the country with nearly 2 million Ontarians dispensed an opioid in 2014/15, which totalled approximately 9 million dispenses putting roughly 15% of Ontarians on prescription opioids ; and

**Whereas** opioids act as depressants on the respiratory system, which can slow or stop breathing, and lead to overdose and death if misused; and

**Whereas** opioids are also accessed illicitly, either through diverted prescriptions or through the illegal drug market resulting in community crises in many parts of Canada and Ontario; and

**Whereas** there has been an increase in opioid-related emergency department visits and admissions to hospital in Kingston and confirmed cases of both bootleg fentanyl and carfentanyl in the KFL&A region; and

**Whereas** the presence of opioids such as fentanyl and the even stronger carfentanyl in the KFL&A and other illegal drug markets is concerning because Fentanyl can be 50 to 100 times more toxic than morphine, and even tiny amounts - the equivalent to one or two grains of salt - can cause overdose and death; and

**Whereas** fentanyl and carfentanyl are being illegally mixed into a range of other drugs, such as heroin, cocaine, counterfeit pills such as Percocet and oxycodone, and cannabis increasing the risks that individuals can unintentionally consume these powerful opioids increasing their risk of overdose and death; and

**Whereas** KFL&A community partners are developing a comprehensive community response to tackle the opioid crisis that focuses on prevention, treatment, harm reduction, enforcement and surveillance; and

**Whereas** a comprehensive approach to reduce the morbidity and mortality from opioid intoxication and overdose includes increasing the availability of Naloxone in the community; and

**Whereas** Naloxone is a medication that can temporarily reverse an overdose caused by opioid drugs, and can save a life by keeping an individual alive while they wait for emergency support to arrive;

**Therefore Be It Resolved That** the City of Kingston partner with KFL&A Public Health to:

- a) endorse the placement of two Naloxone kits with each Automated External Defibrillator (AED) in all city owned and operated facilities where AEDs currently exist with appropriate signage so that all staff and members of the public trained to use Naloxone kits are aware of their location and can respond safely to an overdose using naloxone; and
- b) implement an education and training program on how to use Naloxone, in accordance with the Community Drug Strategy coordinated by KFL&A Public Health; and

**That** the City of Kingston encourage the provincial government through the responsible Ministers to work together to make Naloxone Kits easily available in all communities, and that the Province enact legislation and regulations as needed to limit the liability on non-paramedic responders when administering the drug to treat an overdose; and

**That** this resolution be forwarded to all municipalities in Ontario, with a population greater than 40,000, with the request that they consider indicating their support for this most important initiative; and

**That** this resolution be forwarded to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, with the request that they include proposing a community drug policy that includes access to Naloxone in their respective engagements with the provincial government; and

**That** this resolution be shared with the Premier of Ontario, all opposition leaders, the ministers of Health and Long-Term Care, opposition health critics, our local MPPs, the four school boards, and all City funded organizations; and

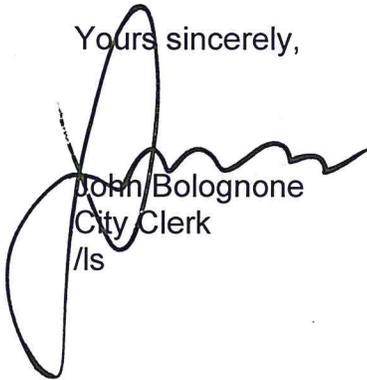
**That** the Government of Ontario consider measures to immediately and directly address over-prescription of legal narcotics by licensed physicians.

November 8, 2017

Kingston City Council Meeting

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



John Bolognone  
City Clerk  
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