



Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
COMMITTEE DATE:	September 16, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	IDEAS (Informed Decisions Empowering Adolescents) Program (BOH16059(b)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Chris Pickersgill (905) 546-2424 Ext. 3787
SUBMITTED BY:	Kevin McDonald on behalf of Jennifer Vickers-Manzin, CNO Director, Healthy Environments Division Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Not Applicable.

INFORMATION

The Informed Decisions Empowering Adolescents (IDEAs) Program has been funded since 1998 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: (1) high school culture; (2) substance misuse; and, (3) sexuality.

On June 22, 2017, the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) provided Public Health Services 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.

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.

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On December 4, 2017, the Board of Health received the Information Report (BOH16059(a)), Informed Decisions Empowering Adolescents (IDEAs) – Update. The BOH endorsed the extension of the contract with Impact Education Consulting to allow for continued service delivery in the French Public School Board, Conseil Scolaire Viamonde (CSViamonde), and the French Catholic School Board, Conseil Scolaire Catholique MonAvenir (CSC MonAvenir). Impact Education Consulting had approached the Hamilton Wentworth Catholic District School Board (HWCDSD) to consider initiating IDEAs within their school board. At the time of the report, Public Health Services had not received direction from the HWCDSD of their decision to pursue IDEAs programming within their school board.

Public Health Staff met with representatives from the CSViamonde and CSC MonAvenir to review the IDEAs program. Both CSViamonde and CSC MonAvenir expressed a desire to continue offering IDEAs within their boards. As a result, Public Health Services continued to contract with Impact Education Consulting to deliver IDEAs solely within the French language school boards for the 2018-2019 school year.

On July 8, 2019, the HWCDSD confirmed that after a thorough review of the IDEAs program, they would not be adopting the IDEAs program within their board.

Public Health Services plans to contract with Impact Education Consulting based on current service requests and levels. This will maintain service delivery to Grade 8 students in the four CSViamonde and CSC MonAvenir schools through the 2019-2020 school year.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not Applicable.