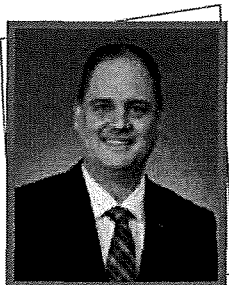


MESSAGE FROM MAYOR FRED EISENBERGER

On behalf of Hamilton Public Health Services' Board of Health, I am pleased to share with you the 2018 Annual Report. Public Health Services has taken the lead on several City-wide initiatives aimed at addressing complex health issues in our community such as taking action on climate change, improving access to oral health services, and reducing the harms associated with drug and alcohol use through the Hamilton Drug Strategy.

The work of Public Health Services supports many of the focus areas within the City's Strategic Plan and has propelled us forward in achieving our vision of being the best place to raise a child and age successfully.



MESSAGE FROM PAUL JOHNSON GENERAL MANAGER, HEALTHY & SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT

Health is influenced by many factors that affect the conditions in which individuals and communities live, learn, work, and play. Reducing factors which have negative impacts on the health of our communities requires collective action. This report showcases key initiatives from 2018 carried out in collaboration with many partners to address health inequities and make Hamilton a healthier and safer community.

The accomplishments described in this report demonstrate the dedication and passion of our public health staff. I would like to thank them for the outstanding work they do each and every day.



MESSAGE FROM DR. ELIZABETH RICHARDSON MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

I am pleased to present the 2018 Annual Report. Working together with our partners across health, education, and social services we continue to partner to create a healthier Hamilton for all. Partnerships are key to us achieving a collective impact and moving forward on our priority health issues of healthy weights, health equity, and mental health and addictions. I am immensely proud of all of the work of Public Health Services over the past year and am eager to see what we can accomplish together and with our partners in the future.

HEALTHY WEIGHTS

Creating a Healthier Food Environment at Recreation Facilities

Our City recreation facilities are key community assets that promote and support healthy, active lifestyles. Together with the City's Recreation Division, Public Health developed a three-year Recreation Healthy Food and Beverage Action Plan. This three-year plan aims to change the food environment at recreation facilities increasing access to municipal drinking water and healthy foods. The implementation of the plan will be guided by six principles:

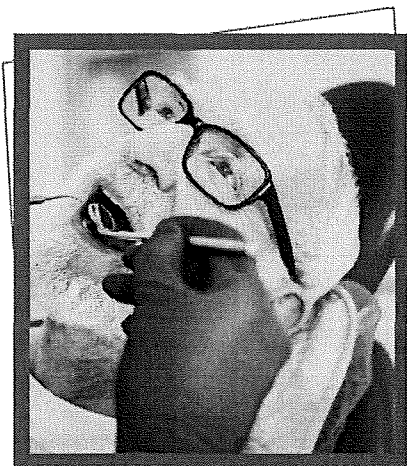
1. Access to healthy food and beverage
2. Free and convenient access to tap water
3. Environmentally-sustainable drinking water
4. Financially-sustainable food services
5. Availability of nutrition information for customers
6. Socially responsible marketing

HEALTH EQUITY

Oral Health Investment

To reduce oral health inequities, the City partnered with Hamilton Community Foundation to improve access to services for residents with little or no dental coverage. A \$1 million grant was received from Green Shield Canada. A three-year strategy was implemented with Ontario Works that includes:

- ▶ Increased capacity and hours of operation of the Dental Health Bus
- ▶ Implementation of a "Smiles with Confidence" pilot program that provides dental care to working-age adults to increase their employability and overall well-being
- ▶ Enhanced supplemental denture coverage for low-income seniors

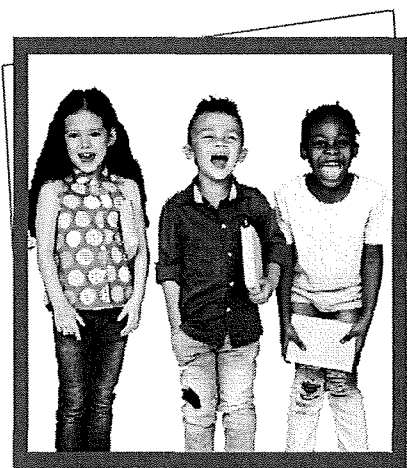


Child & Youth Health Atlas

We want every child in Hamilton to grow up to meet their full potential and be physically, mentally, and socially healthy.

To support this, a Child & Youth Health Atlas was developed that provides data on the health of school-age children including income, education, mental health, immunization, early childhood development, and health behaviours. The Atlas has been used by City departments and our school board partners to develop shared priorities and take collective action to protect and improve the health of our children and youth.

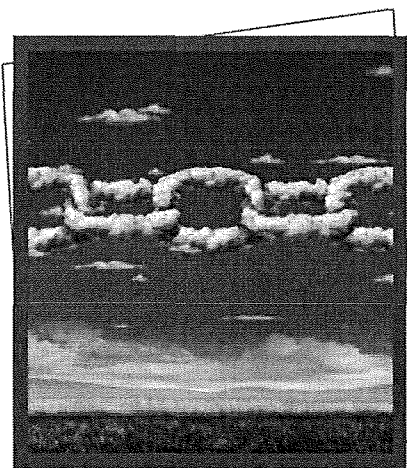
[View the Child & Youth Health Atlas](#)



Air Summit

Air quality remains an important health and environmental concern in Hamilton. In September, leading experts and professionals in the fields of air quality, engineering, and public health attended the City of Hamilton's Air Summit to build stronger partnerships and discuss ways to address complex air quality issues in Hamilton and across the province.

Hamilton's Airshed Model was also completed after years of hard work with our partners. This model will be used to create a healthier built environment that minimizes citizens' exposure to air pollution and promotes an active lifestyle.



MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS

Hamilton Drug Strategy

A Summit was held in March to kick off the Hamilton Drug Strategy, a city-wide collaboration of over 100 local agencies and organizations to address the harms associated with substance use.

Through a series of consultations and engagement events, each of the four working groups developed action plans that focus on prevention, harm reduction, social justice / justice, and treatment.

[Learn more about the Hamilton Drug Strategy](#)

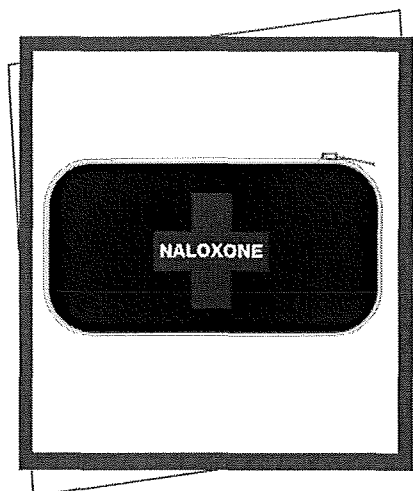


Hamilton's Continued Response to Opioids

In response to the opioid crisis, Public Health Services has collaborated with several community agencies to increase the distribution and availability of naloxone in Hamilton. Naloxone is a safe, highly effective medication that reverses the effects of opioids. Free naloxone kits and training are now available at the following community agencies: The AIDS Network, St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton outpatient clinics and emergency department, Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre, and Alternatives for Youth.

The Hamilton Fire Department, Hamilton Police Services and St. John's Ambulance also signed on in 2018 to carry naloxone to respond to emergency situations. Public Health continues to work with community agencies to sign onto the Naloxone Expansion Program to increase the availability of naloxone.

[Learn more about Hamilton's opioid response](#)



Public Health Cannabis Strategy

In preparation for the legalization of non-medical cannabis in October 2018, a Cannabis Strategy was developed that complements federal and provincial initiatives. The four goals of the Cannabis Strategy are to:

- ▶ Educate on safer, legal, and responsible use of cannabis
- ▶ Prevent or delay the age of cannabis use and reduce the likelihood of harm from use
- ▶ Promote a culture of moderation
- ▶ Increase knowledge of the impacts of consuming cannabis while parenting or pregnant

[Learn more about the risks associated with cannabis](#)

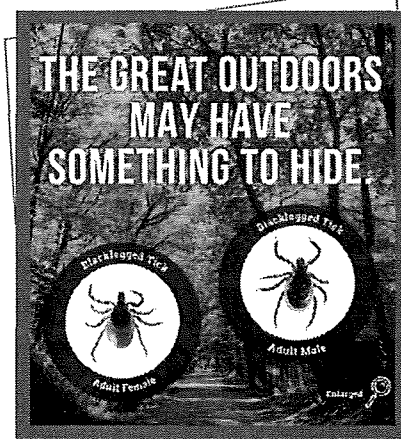
OTHER INITIATIVES

Tick Talk

As tick populations spread northwards due to climate change, more areas are likely to become risk areas for Lyme disease. In March, Hamilton became what is known as an estimated risk area for Lyme disease after tick surveillance activities found evidence of established blacklegged tick populations.

In response, we collaborated with partners across the City to enhance public education to raise awareness of ticks and tick prevention, along with measures all of us can take to minimize our risk.

[Learn more about Lyme disease and ticks](#)



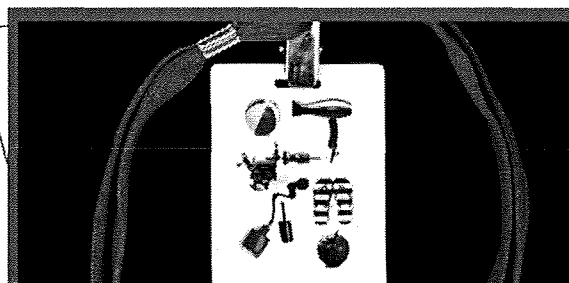
Online Health Inspection Results

Public health inspectors are responsible for inspecting over 11,000 businesses and facilities in Hamilton each year. In January, even more inspection results became publicly available online including:

- ▶ personal service settings (tattoo parlours, piercing, hair and nail salons, etc.)
- ▶ licensed child care facilities
- ▶ public pools and spas
- ▶ small drinking water systems
- ▶ tanning facilities
- ▶ residential camps
- ▶ tobacco and e-cigarette retailer convictions

Inspection results for food premises (restaurants, grocery stores, food trucks, etc.) have been available online since 2009.

[View health inspection results](#)



NEED A BACKSTAGE PASS?



Before you take a dip, get that new do, or dine, access public health inspection results on our website.

QUICK FACTS

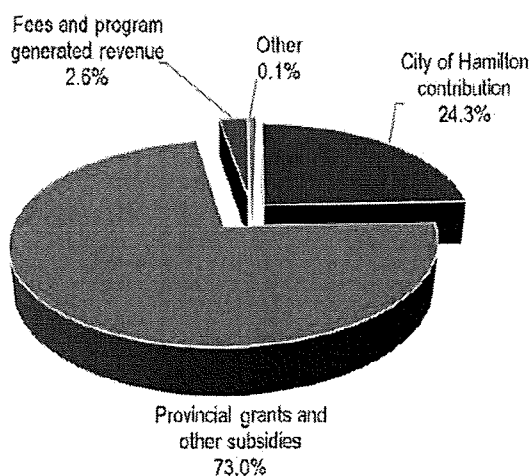
11,374	total inspections completed	97%	of health hazard investigations initiated within 24 hours
1,714	tobacco inspections	6,302	health connection calls from families
6,536	food inspections	4,464	clients seen at dental clinics
797	water inspections	1,418	clients seen at dental bus
550	residential care facility inspections	8,716	home visits to families during pregnancy, infancy & early childhood
967	personal service setting inspections	31,869	immunizations given
528	day care inspections	70,000+	student immunization records reviewed and addressed
4,827	infectious disease cases investigated	6,412	naloxone doses distributed
96%	of the 1550 rabies exposures were investigated within 1 day	568	people reported as being revived by Public Health's naloxone kits

Public Health Services Funding

In 2018 the Government of Ontario provided funding for 73% of Hamilton Public Health Services' budget, with 24.3% contributed by the City of Hamilton and 2.6% from program generated revenue.

2018 Approved Budget: \$51,477,720

Funding Sources



Approved Budget by Division

