



## **BOARD OF HEALTH REPORT 19-011**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Monday, November 18, 2019**

**Council Chambers**

**Hamilton City Hall**

**Present:** Councillor M. Wilson (Vice-Chair)  
Councillors J. Farr, N. Nann, S. Merulla, C. Collins, T. Jackson, E. Pauls, J.P. Danko, B. Clark, M. Pearson, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek, T. Whitehead, and J. Partridge

**Absent with  
Regrets:** Mayor F. Eisenberger (Chair), Councillor B. Johnson – City Business

### **THE BOARD OF HEALTH PRESENTS REPORT 19-011 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:**

#### **1. Communications (Items 5.1-5.6)**

That the following recommendations be approved:

- (a) Correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Durham to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau respecting a Notice of Motion regarding the Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution (Item 5.1)**

Recommendation: Be endorsed with a letter to the Federal and Provincial Ministers of Health.

- (b) Correspondence from Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health respecting Comprehensive Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Canada (Item 5.2)**

Recommendation: Be endorsed with a letter to the Minister of Health.

- (c) **Correspondence from Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, respecting a Resolution regarding the Immediate Removal of Regulation 268 of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* (Item 5.3)**

Recommendation: Be endorsed with a letter to the Ontario Minister of Health.

- (d) **Correspondence from the Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit respecting Restrictions of Vaping Products and Flavoured E- cigarettes (Item 5.5)**

Recommendation: Be endorsed with a letter to the Ontario Minister of Health.

- (e) **Correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit respecting the Harms of Vaping and the Next Steps for Regulation (Item 5.6)**

Recommendation: Be endorsed with a letter to the Ontario Minister of Health.

## **2. Declaration of an Opioid Crisis in the City of Hamilton (Added Item 11.1)**

WHEREAS, the opioid crisis is affecting municipalities across Ontario, including Hamilton;

WHEREAS, opioid-related overdose emergency department visits and opioid-related deaths are increasing annually in Hamilton;

WHEREAS, the number of overdose emergency department visits for people living in the City of Hamilton is highest for opioids compared to other substances, accounting for 574 opioid overdose emergency department visits in 2018;

WHEREAS, from January to December of 2018 there were 123 opioid-related deaths, representing a 40% increase over the previous year;

WHEREAS, Hamilton's 2018 opioid-related death rate was 109% higher than or more than double the provincial rate (21.3 deaths per 100,000 population vs. 10.2 per 100,000 for Ontario);

WHEREAS, in 2018, Hamilton had the 3rd highest opioid-related mortality rate among health units in Ontario, and Hamilton had the highest opioid mortality rate among health units in southern Ontario;

WHEREAS, in 2018, the City of Hamilton had the 4th highest opioid-related mortality rate among large urban population centres in Ontario;

WHEREAS, to date in 2019 (January 1 to November 6) Hamilton Paramedic Services has responded to 516 incidents related to suspected opioid overdoses, close to 12 per week or 2 per day; and,

WHEREAS, life expectancy in Canada has stopped increasing for the first time in more than four decades, due largely to soaring overdose deaths nationally, in particular, among young adult men.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Board of Health recommend to Council to acknowledge and declare an Opioid Overdose Emergency in the City of Hamilton;
- (b) That a letter be sent to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health in support of the following:
  - (i) The addition of Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies at their required concentrations to the Ontario Drug Benefit Formulary for the treatment of opioid use disorder;
  - (ii) Seeking authority from Health Canada to import diacetylmorphine (pharmaceutical heroin) for use as a managed opioid program medication in Ontario; and,
  - (iii) Ensuring that managed opioid medications are universally accessible to all Ontarians who could benefit from these kinds of programs, and that cost not be a barrier.

**3. Public Health Priorities (BOH19034) (City Wide) (Item 9.2)**

That Report BOH19034 respecting Public Health Priorities, be received.

**4. Child and Adolescent Services Budget (BOH19036) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)**

- (a) That the Child and Adolescent Service budget be approved, and the Medical Officer of Health be authorized and directed to receive, utilize and report on the 2019-2020 Ministry of Health funded Child and Adolescent Services Budget, including the changes outlined in confidential Appendix “A”; and,
- (b) That Appendix “A” to Report BOH19036 respecting Child and Adolescent Services Budget remain confidential until Council approval.

**FOR INFORMATION:**

**(a) CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)**

There were no ceremonial activities.

**(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)**

The Committee Clerk advised the Board of the following changes to the agenda:

**6. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

- 6.2 Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, respecting new information on the Fentanyl Epidemic

**12. NOTICES OF MOTION**

- 12.1 Declaration of an Opioid Crisis in the City of Hamilton

Item 6.1, Delegation Request from Germain Sophie Ngana, Sureka Pavalagantharajah and Angela Li, McMaster University, respecting support for Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies; Item 6.2, Delegation Request from Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, respecting new information on the Fentanyl Epidemic; Item 8.1, Delegation from Noor Nizam, respecting the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program; Item 9.1, Code Red Presentation and Item 12.1, Declaration of an Opioid Crisis in the City of Hamilton, were considered immediately following the approval of the agenda.

The agenda for the November 18, 2019 Board of Health was approved, as amended.

**(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)**

There were no declarations of interest.

**(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)**

**(i) October 18, 2019 (Item 4.1)**

The Minutes of the October 18, 2019 meeting of the Board of Health were approved, as presented.

**(e) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)**

**(i) Correspondence from Southwestern Public Health to the Ontario Minister of Health regarding the Expansion of Alcohol Retail Outlets (Item 5.4)**

The Correspondence from Southwestern Public Health to the Ontario Minister of Health regarding the Expansion of Alcohol Retail Outlets, was received and referred back to Public Health Services staff for a report to the Board of Health on December 2, 2019.

**(ii) Correspondence from the Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit respecting the Prohibition of Vapour Production Promotion in Convenience Stores and Gas Stations (Item 5.7)**

The Correspondence from the Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit respecting the Prohibition of Vapour Production Promotion in Convenience Stores and Gas Stations, was received.

**(f) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)**

The following Delegation Requests were approved, for today's meeting:

- (i) Germain Sophie Ngana, Sureka Pavalagantharajah and Angela Li, McMaster University, respecting support for Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies (Item 6.1)**
- (ii) Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, respecting the Fentanyl Epidemic (Added Item 6.2)**

**(g) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 7)**

**(i) Food Advisory Committee Minutes – September 10, 2019 (Item 7.1)**

That the Food Advisory Committee Minutes of September 10, 2019, be received.

**(h) DELEGATIONS (Item 8)**

**(i) Noor Nizam, respecting the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (approved at the October 18, 2019 meeting) (Item 8.1)**

Noor Nizam addressed the Board with concerns respecting the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program, with the aid of handout.

The delegation from Noor Nizam, respecting the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program, was received.

The handout is available at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca), and through the Office of the City Clerk.

**(ii) Germain Sophie Ngana, Sureka Pavalagantharajah and Angela Li, McMaster University, respecting support for Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies (Added Item 8.2)**

Germain Sophie Ngana, Sureka Pavalagantharajah and Angela Li, McMaster University addressed the Board respecting support for Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

The delegation from Germain Sophie Ngana, Sureka Pavalagantharajah and Angela Li, McMaster University, respecting support for Injectable Opioid Agonist Therapies, was received.

The presentation is available at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca), and through the Office of the City Clerk.

For further disposition, refer to Item 2.

**(iii) Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, respecting New Information on the Fentanyl Epidemic (Added Item 8.3)**

Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, addressed the Board respecting New Information on the Fentanyl Epidemic, and access to fentanyl test strip kits.

The delegation from Alexander Kinkade, Anti-od.org, respecting New Information on the Fentanyl Epidemic and access to fentanyl test strip kits, was received.

For further disposition, refer to Item 2.

**(i) STAFF PRESENTATION (Item 9)**

**(i) Code Red Presentation to the Board of Health with Steve Buist and Dr. Neil Johnston (Item 9.1)**

Steve Buist, Hamilton Spectator, and Dr. Neil Johnston addressed the Board respecting the Code Red Series with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

The presentation respecting the Code Red Series, was received.

The presentation is available at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca), and through the Office of the City Clerk.

**(ii) Public Health Priorities (BOH19034) (City Wide) (Item 9.2)**

Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, addressed the Board respecting Public Health Priorities (BOH19034), with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

The presentation respecting Public Health Priorities (BOH19034), was received.

The presentation is available at [www.hamilton.ca](http://www.hamilton.ca), and through the Office of the City Clerk.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 3.

**(j) NOTICE OF MOTION (Item 12)**

Councillor Merulla introduced the following Notice of Motion.

**(i) Declaration of an Opioid Crisis in the City of Hamilton (Item 12.1)**

The Rules of Order were waived to allow for the introduction of a motion respecting Declaration of an Opioid Crisis in the City of Hamilton.

For further disposition of this matter, refer to Item 2.

**(k) GENERAL INFORMATION AND OTHER BUSINESS (Item 13)**

**(i) Amendments to the Outstanding Business List:**

The following amendments to the Board of Health Outstanding Business List, were approved:

**(a) Items to be Removed:**

2019-J

Correspondence from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care respecting 2019-2020 Low Income Seniors Dental Additional Base Funding

June 17, 2019, 19-006 (Added Item 5.10)

Addressed at the October 2019 meeting

2019-M  
Seniors Oral Health (BOH19026)  
July 10, 2019, 19-007 (Item 7.4)  
Addressed at the October 2019 meeting

**(I) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)**

There being no further business, the Board of Health adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor M. Wilson  
Vice-Chair, Board of Health

Loren Kolar  
Legislative Coordinator  
Office of the City Clerk