CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Public Health Sub-Committee: April 28, 2025

MOVED BY A. JOSEPH………………..…………………………………

SECONDED BY……………………………………..………………….

Mobilizing Hamilton Public Health Knowledge to Maximize Positive Health Impacts

WHEREAS, Hamilton Public Health Services prepares and presents Hamilton's Community Health Status Report annually as well as regular Public Health reports on priority health issues;

WHEREAS, Hamilton's Community Health Status Report and regular public shealth reports contain important public health information relevant to Hamilton's population with respect to general health, mortality, preventable deaths, mental health, infectious diseases, social circumstances influencing health, substance use, injury and violence, chronic disease, environment and health etc;

WHEREAS, Hamilton's Community Health Status Report, "is part of our commitment to provide information so that as a community we can better understand the health of Hamiltonians. That includes the underlying social circumstances that influence health, such as education, housing, income, racism and social exclusion. By being better informed, and working together, we can improve health for all"[1];

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has recognized disinformation as a threat to public health and has recommended strategies to tackle the negative health impacts of misinformation and disinformation, which include, "promoting trusted sources of information and voices of authority"[2]; and

WHEREAS, the Health Protection and Promotion Act identifies that "Health promotion, health protection and disease and injury prevention"[3] are among the mandatory health programs and services required by every board of health.

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[1] filestream.ashx
[2] WER9904-38-48.pdf
[3] Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7 | ontario.ca

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Hamilton Public Health Services explore and report back on a strategy to share, on a regular basis, relevant and important public health information to the Hamilton Community, via online, print, campaigns, to mobilize current, factual, Hamilton Public Health information with the goal of countering the negative health consequences of misinformation and disinformation.