



PUBLIC HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES PHSC 25-004

9:30 a.m.

Monday, April 28, 2025

Council Chambers (Hybrid)

71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Councillors C. Cassar, T. Hwang (Virtual), C. Kroetsch (Chair),
N. Nann (Virtual), M. Tadeson and A. Wilson
D. Danko (Virtual), K. Johnson (Virtual), A. Joseph, and C. Kirkby

**Absent with
Regrets:** S. Adjekum and A. Cheung

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Kroetsch called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no Ceremonial Activities.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(Cassar/Tadeson)

That the agenda for the April 28, 2025, Public Health Sub-Committee be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 PHSC 25-003

Public Health Sub-Committee Minutes of the meeting held on March 17, 2025

(Cassar/Hwang)

That the Minutes of the March 17, 2025, meeting of the Public Health Sub-Committee be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Delegations respecting Item 7.1 - CWCL 105-2025, Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites

The following individuals addressed Committee respecting Item 7.1 - CWCL 105-2025, Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites:

- (a) Tyler Dhaliwal (In-Person) (Item 6.1 (a))
- (b) Andrew Selman (In-Person) (Item 6.1 (b))
- (c) Jennie Hamilton, CUPE 932 – Hamilton Public Library (Virtual) (Item 6.1 (d))

The following individual was not present when called upon by the Chair:

- (a) Martha Ronalds (Virtual) (Item 6.1 (c))

6.2 Delegations respecting Item 8.1 - BOH25010, Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide)

The following individual addressed Committee respecting Item 8.1 - BOH25010, Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide):

- (a) James Kemp (Virtual)

(Nann/A. Wilson)

That the following Delegations, be received:

6.1 Delegations respecting Item 7.1 - CWCL 105-2025, Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites:

- (a) Tyler Dhaliwal (In-Person)
- (b) Andrew Selman (In-Person)
- (c) Jennie Hamilton, CUPE 932 – Hamilton Public Library (Virtual)

6.2 Delegations respecting Item 8.1 - BOH25010, Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide):

- (a) James Kemp (Virtual)

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 CWCL 105-2025

Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites

(Kirkby/Hwang)

- (a) That CWCL 105-2025 respecting a Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites, be received; and
- (b) That the following Correspondence respecting Item 7.1 – CWCL 105-2025, Petition to Designate Public Libraries as Safe Drug Consumption Sites, be received:

- (a) Amy Osting
(b) Laina Don
(c) Stacey Adamson
(d) Stephanie Smith
(e) Ken Macdonald
(f) Lianne Corbacio
(g) Franca Kovacs
(h) Victoria Kerr
(i) Andrea Harris
(j) Christina Russell
(k) Kateryna Dzumbelak
(l) Kevin Kerr
(m) Paul Takala, CEO/Chief Librarian, Public Health Library and
Gagan Batra, Chair, Hamilton Public Library Board

CARRIED

7.2 BOH25010

Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide)

Kevin McDonald, Director, Healthy Environments, introduced Matt Lawson, Manager, Health Hazards & Vector Borne Diseases, who addressed Committee respecting Report BOH25010, Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide), with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(A. Wilson/Nann)

That Report BOH25010, dated April 28, 2025, respecting Hamilton Community Heat Strategy Update 2025 (City Wide), and the accompanying presentation, be received.

CARRIED

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 BOH25008

Municipal Alcohol Policy Update 2025 (City Wide)

(Kirkby/A. Wilson)

That Report BOH25008, dated April 28, 2025, respecting Municipal Alcohol Policy Update 2025 (City Wide), be received and the following recommendation, be approved:

- (a) That the revised Municipal Alcohol Policy (2025), attached as Appendix “A” to Report BOH25008, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

8.2 BOH25009 - REVISED

Participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference (City Wide)

(Cassar/Hwang)

That Report BOH25009, dated April 28, 2025, respecting Participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

- (a) That the following Public Health Sub-Committee members BE DESIGNATED as City of Hamilton representatives at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference:
 - (i) Councillor Kroetsch
 - (ii) Councillor Cassar
 - (ii) Chelsea Kirkby
- (b) That Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Brendan Lew, Associate Medical Officer of Health, BE DESIGNATED as City of Hamilton Public Health Services representatives at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference;
- (c) That all City of Hamilton designated representatives BE GRANTED voting privileges at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference; and

- (d) That costs associated with Public Health Sub-Committee representatives' participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa) Conference BE FUNDED through Dept ID 677050 / Account 56305 – Councillor's Conferences, to come from 2025 Public Health Services budget gapping.

CARRIED

9. MOTIONS

9.1 Embedding Health Equity Methods and Analysis across Hamilton Public Health Reporting

(Joseph/Kirkby)

WHEREAS, The Terms of Reference for Public Health Sub-Committee states responsibilities, to consider and recommend to Council policies governing equitable service delivery of Public Health Services, to consider and monitor program implementation and performance through staff reports and to steward relevant public health legislation when providing advice and guidance to Public Health Services, including the Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability, the Health Equity Guideline, 2018, and the Relationship with Indigenous Communities Guideline, 2018; and

WHEREAS, Health Equity is a priority for Hamilton Public Health Services and “Enhancing the collection and use of data on the social determinants of health for Hamiltonians”, “Increasing engagement with priority populations in identifying and addressing health inequities and collaborate with community partners”, “Engaging with Indigenous communities and organizations to guide & support us with the development and delivery of culturally safe public health services” and, “Measuring and demonstrating the impact of programs on health inequities in our community” have been reported as areas of focus for Hamilton Public Health Services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That Hamilton Public Health Services require the collection of and analysis of sociodemographic, health equity data in all future health reports where immediately applicable prepare and present a plan for the collection of such data where relevant health equity data is currently absent with a community engaged approach.

CARRIED

9.2 Mobilizing Hamilton Public Health Knowledge to Maximize Positive Health Impacts

(i) (Joseph/Kirkby)

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 health 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";

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"; and

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

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.

- (ii) The following friendly amendment was accepted by the mover and seconder of the Motion.

That the Motion be ***amended*** to read as follows:

That Hamilton Public Health Services explore and report back on a strategy to share, on a regular basis, relevant and important public health information, ***related public health programming and their impact***, 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.

Main Motion, As Amended, CARRIED

10. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

There were no Notice of Motions.

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

There were no Private & Confidential Items.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Public Health Sub-Committee was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gauthier
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Chair,
Public Health Sub-Committee