

City Clerk's Division

BOARD OF HEALTH FOLLOW-UP NOTICE

TO: Dr. Elizabeth Richardson
Medical Officer of Health
Public Health Services

DATE: December 2, 2025

FROM: Matt Gauthier, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

RE: **Board of Health Meeting – December 1, 2025**

A. BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES:

Board of Health Minutes BOH 25-005

Attached are the Minutes of the Board of Health meeting held on December 1, 2025. These Minutes will be placed on the agenda of the next Board of Health meeting for adoption by the Board.

B. GENERAL NOTES:

Please take the necessary steps to carry out the direction of the Board of Health with respect to the items contained within this memo.

Copied: Krislyn Fernandes, Administrative Coordinator, Public Health Services

**BOARD OF HEALTH
FOR THE CITY OF HAMILTON PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT
MINUTES BOH 25-005**

9:30 a.m.

Monday, December 1, 2025

Council Chambers (Hybrid)

71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario

Present: Councillors C. Kroetsch (Chair), C. Cassar, T. Hwang, N. Nann (Virtual), M. Tadeson and A. Wilson

A. Joseph (Vice-Chair) (Virtual), S. Adjekum (Virtual), D. Danko, R. Janssen, C. Kirkby and R. Safi (Virtual)

Absent

With Regrets A. Cheung

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(Hwang/Tadeson)

That the agenda for the December 1, 2025, Board of Health, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

4. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no Ceremonial Activities.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 October 20, 2025

(Hwang/Kirkby)

That the minutes of the October 20, 2025, meeting of the Board of Health, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Gloria Nastos respecting Solutions to the Opioid Crisis and the Overuse of Drugs

Gloria Nastos addressed Committee respecting Solutions to the Opioid Crisis and the Overuse of Drugs.

6.2 Kayla Hagerty respecting Overdose Deaths in Hamilton (2025), Alternatives to HART Hubs, SCS Closures, and the Need for Continuity of Social Supports

Kayla Hagerty addressed Committee respecting Overdose Deaths in Hamilton (2025), Alternatives to HART Hubs, SCS Closures, and the Need for Continuity of Social Supports.

(Hwang/Janssen)

That the following delegations, be received:

6.1 Gloria Nastos respecting Solutions to the Opioid Crisis and the Overuse of Drugs

6.2 Kayla Hagerty respecting Overdose Deaths in Hamilton (2025), Alternatives to HART Hubs, SCS Closures, and the Need for Continuity of Social Supports

CARRIED

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 BOH25030 Proposed 2026 Board of Health Meeting Schedule (City Wide)

(a) (Kirkby/Janssen)

That Report BOH25030, dated December 1, 2025, respecting the Proposed 2026 Board of Health Meeting Schedule (City Wide), be received.

CARRIED

(b) (Hwang/Cassar)

That the Board of Health 2026 meeting schedule be approved as follows:

- (i) Monday, January 26, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (ii) Monday, February 23, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (iii) Monday, March 23, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (iv) Monday, April 27, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (v) Monday, May 25, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (vi) Monday, June 22, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

- (vii) Monday, July 27, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (viii) Monday, August 24, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (ix) Monday, September 21, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (x) Monday, October 5, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.
- (xi) Monday, December 14, 2026 – 9:30 a.m.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
YES	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
ABSENT	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

**7.2 BOH25029
Hamilton Opioid Information System Semi-Annual Update (September 20, 2025) (City Wide)**

(Nann/A. Wilson)

That Report BOH25029, dated December 1, 2025, respecting Hamilton Opioid Information System Semi-Annual Update (September 20, 2025) (City Wide), be received.

CARRIED

7.3 Update from Members Danko and Janssen respecting their Participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) 2025 Fall Symposium

(Cassar/Hwang)

That the Update from Members Danko and Janssen respecting their Participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) 2025 Fall Symposium, be received.

CARRIED

8. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

8.1 BOH25027
Updated 2026 Public Health Services Proposed User Fees (City Wide)

(i) (Danko/Hwang)

That Report BOH25027, dated December 1, 2025, respecting Updated 2026 Public Health Services Proposed User Fees (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

- (a) That the 2026 recommended user fees contained in Appendix “A” to Report BOH25027 BE APPROVED;
- (b) That staff BE DIRECTED to prepare the necessary by-law for Board of Health approval, for the purposes of establishing the user fees contained in Appendix “A” to Report BOH25027;
- (c) That staff BE DIRECTED to provide analysis of separate fee rates for non-profit organizations in the 2027 proposed user fees report which will be provided to the Board of Health in Q3 2026; and,
- (d) That staff BE DIRECTED to provide analysis of cost recovery of additional work that go over and above what is typically necessary in the 2027 proposed user fees report which will be provided to the Board of Health in Q3 2026.

(ii) (Kroetsch/Janssen)

That Appendix ‘A’ to Report BOH25025, be **amended**, to read as follows:

#	Service or Activity Provided or Use of City Property	2025 Approved Fee	2026 Proposed Fee	HST (Yes/No)*	% Change in Fee	% of Cost Recovery [†]
Food Inspection						
1	Food Handlers Course (per person) - No Inspection	\$ 60.18	\$ 62.35	Yes	3.6%	100%
2	Food Handler Training Challenge Exam - No Inspection	\$ 12.39	\$ 13.27	Yes	7.1%	100%

#	Service or Activity Provided or Use of City Property	2025 Approved Fee	2026 Proposed Fee	HST (Yes/No)*	% Change in Fee	% of Cost Recover y [†]
Inspection of Special Events						
1	Special Events/Festivals (per vendor/per event) - Inspection	\$ 41.59	\$ 71.83 \$43.10	Yes	67% 3.6%	50% 30%
2	Special Events Late Fee - Inspection	\$ 30.97	\$ 53.48 \$32.10	Yes	67% 3.6%	50% 30%

#	Service or Activity Provided or Use of City Property	2025 Approved Fee	2026 Proposed Fee	HST (Yes/No)*	% Change in Fee	% of Cost Recover y [†]
Food Safety						
1	Food Safety Fee - High Risk	\$ 245.13	\$ 380.97 \$253.95	Yes	50% 3.6%	75% 50%
2	Food Safety Fee - Medium Risk	\$ 111.50	\$ 173.27 \$115.51	Yes	50% 3.6%	75% 50%
3	Food Safety Fee - Low Risk	\$ 56.64	\$ 73.35 \$58.68	Yes	25% 3.6%	100% 80%
4	Bed and Breakfast	\$ 111.50	\$ 115.51	Yes	3.6%	100%
5	Refreshment Vehicle - Class A	\$ 111.50	\$ 231.02 \$115.51	Yes	100% 3.6%	50% 25%
6	Refreshment Vehicle - Class B	\$ 111.50	\$ 173.27 \$115.51	Yes	50% 3.6%	75% 50%
7	Refreshment Vehicle - Class C	\$ 56.64	\$ 88.02 \$58.68	Yes	50% 3.6%	75% 50%
8	Tobacco Vendors - Inspection per License	\$ 228.32	\$ 236.54	Yes	3.6%	100%
9	Electronic Cigarettes - Inspection per License	\$ 73.45	\$ 89.52	Yes	18%	100%
10	Personal Services Settings Fee	\$ 137.17	\$ 142.11	Yes	3.6%	100%

11	Property Status Reports (Work Orders) - No Inspection	\$ 60.18	\$ 62.35	Yes	3.6%	100%
#	Service or Activity Provided or Use of City Property	2025 Approved Fee	2026 Proposed Fee	HST (Yes/No)*	% Change in Fee	% of Cost Recovery [†]
Housing Inspection						
1	Migrant Farm Worker Housing	\$ 149.56	\$ 154.94	Yes	3.6%	100%
2	Residential Care Facilities - annual/per bed	\$ 76.99	\$ 90.44 \$79.76	Yes	13% 3.6%	85% 75%

Result: AMENDMENT, CARRIED by a vote of 9 to 2, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
NO	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
NO	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

Result: Main Motion, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 9 to 3, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
NO	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
NO	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
NO	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

**8.2 BOH25028
Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget (City Wide)**

(i) (Tadeson/Danko)

(a) That Report BOH25028, dated December 1, 2025, respecting Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

(i) That the Public Health Services 2026 proposed budget, as outlined in Appendix "A" to Report BOH25028, with a gross budget of \$65.5 M, reflecting a 2.1% increase over the 2025 Public Health Services budget, including a net levy portion of \$18.5 M, or 4.5% over 2025 Public Health Services budget, BE APPROVED;

(1) That the approved Public Health Services 2026 proposed budget BE SUBMITTED to the City of Hamilton's annual budget process for consideration and adoption; and,

(2) That, following City Council's final adoption and communication of the municipal levy portion of the budget to the Board of Health, the Medical Officer of Health, or delegate, BE AUTHORIZED to submit relevant portions of the approved budget to other funders for their respective consideration and approval.

(b) That the Correspondence from Mayor Andrea Horwath respecting the 2026 Budget Directive, be received.

(ii) (Hwang/Cassar)

That recommendation (i) to Report BOH25025, respecting Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget (City Wide), be **amended**, to read as follows:

(i) That the Public Health Services 2026 proposed budget, as outlined in Appendix "A" to Report BOH25028, with a gross budget of \$65.5 M, reflecting a 2.1% increase over the 2025 Public Health Services budget, including a net levy portion of ~~\$18.5 M~~ **18.7M**, or ~~4.5%~~ **5.7%** over 2025 Public Health Services budget, BE APPROVED;

Result: AMENDMENT, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 1, as follows:

YES - Adjekum, Sarah Citizen Member

YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
YES	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
NO	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

Result: Main Motion, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 2, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
NO	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
NO	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

9. MOTIONS

9.1 Targeting Overdoses and Drug Poisoning Deaths in Private Dwellings

This Item was withdrawn.

9.2 Enhancing Reporting on Public Health Interventions Related to the Toxic Drug Supply (Generated from Item 7.2)

(i) (Joseph/Adjekum)

WHEREAS, Hamilton continues to experience significant public health harms associated with the toxic and unpredictable unregulated drug supply, with ongoing impacts reflected in paramedic responses, emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and deaths;

WHEREAS, Opioid-related harms disproportionately affect equity-deserving populations in Hamilton, including individuals who are

unhoused, Indigenous, and racialized, whose experiences are shaped by systemic factors such as poverty, housing instability, stigma, racism, and barriers to care;

WHEREAS, Data demonstrate that the largest concentration of opioid-related paramedic responses and Van Needle Syringe Program service stops occur in Wards 2, 3, and 4, indicating a geographic concentration of risk and the need for targeted, equitable, and community-specific interventions;

WHEREAS, Toxicology information shows that most accidental opioid-related deaths involve multiple substances—including fentanyl, stimulants (cocaine and methamphetamine), unregulated benzodiazepines, and veterinary tranquilizers—reflecting a highly toxic and evolving drug supply that increases the complexity of emergency response and overdose prevention;

WHEREAS, Hamilton Public Health Services, in collaboration with the Hamilton Drug Strategy's Opioid Working Group and the Greater Hamilton Health Network Harm Reduction and Treatment Working Group, continues to undertake harm reduction, monitoring, and treatment initiatives aimed at addressing the risks associated with the unregulated drug supply; and

WHEREAS, the current semi-annual Hamilton Opioid Information System reports provide important data on harms but do not consistently include a summary of Public Health's ongoing initiatives, actions, interventions, or programmatic responses aligned with the issues identified in each reporting period.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Hamilton Public Health Services include in all future semi-annual Hamilton Opioid Information System reports a dedicated section that:
 - (i) Outlines all current initiatives, interventions, harm-reduction actions, community partnerships, and program responses undertaken by Public Health that directly respond to the issues, trends, and inequities identified in the report;
 - (ii) Provides progress updates on ongoing strategies and actions addressing harms related to the toxic unregulated drug supply; including updated data about drug toxicity (to contextualize the potency of substances in circulation);

- (iii) Identifies any new or emerging Public Health actions implemented between reporting periods; and
 - (iv) Describes how these actions align with and respond to:
 - (1) documented inequities, including impacts on unhoused residents, Indigenous communities, racialized populations, and neighbourhoods disproportionately affected by opioid-related harms;
 - (2) opioid related health and social impacts beyond death;
 - (v) Describes the impact of policy changes (For example The Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2024) including the current status of supervised consumption sites (including closures, relocations, and number of patients served);
- (ii) The following friendly amendments were accepted by the mover and seconder of the Motion:
- (a) That Hamilton Public Health Services include in all future semi-annual Hamilton Opioid Information System reports a dedicated section that:
 - (i) Outlines all current initiatives, interventions, harm-reduction actions, community partnerships, and program responses undertaken by Public Health that directly respond to the issues, trends, and inequities identified in the report;
 - (ii) Provides progress updates on ongoing strategies and actions addressing harms related to the toxic unregulated drug supply; ~~including updated data about drug toxicity~~ (to contextualize the potency of substances in circulation);
 - (iii) Identifies any new or emerging Public Health **Services** actions implemented between reporting periods; and
 - (iv) Describes how these actions align with and respond to:
 - (1) documented inequities, including impacts on unhoused residents, Indigenous communities,

racialized populations, and neighbourhoods disproportionately affected by opioid-related harms;

- (2) opioid related health and social impacts beyond death;
- (v) Describes the impact of policy changes (For example The Restricting Public Consumption of Illegal Substances Act, 2024) and the current status of supervised consumption sites (including closures, relocations, and number of patients served), ***in consultation with Public Health Units where supervised consumption sites were closed.***

Result: Main Motion, As Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
YES	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no Notices of Motion.

11. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

There were no Private & Confidential Items.

12. BY-LAWS

(Hwang/Danko)

That Bill No. 25-007 be passed and the By-law, be numbered, be signed by the Chair and Secretary to read as follows:

007 To Confirm Proceedings of the Board of Health for the City of Hamilton Public Health Unit

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
ABSENT	- Cheung, Andrew	Citizen Member
YES	- Danko, Dawn	Educational Representative
YES	- Hwang, Tammy	Ward 4 Councillor
YES	- Janssen, Ryan	Citizen Member
YES	- Joseph, Ameil	Citizen Member
YES	- Kirkby, Chelsea	Citizen Member
YES	- Kroetsch, Cameron	Ward 2 Councillor
YES	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board of Health was adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gauthier
Acting Secretary
Office of the City Clerk

Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Chair
Board of Health