

**BOARD OF HEALTH
FOR THE CITY OF HAMILTON PUBLIC HEALTH UNIT
MINUTES BOH 26-001**

9:30 a.m.

Monday, January 26, 2026

Webex Virtual Streaming

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

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

Acting Secretary Gauthier called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

2. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR / VICE-CHAIR

(i) Appointment of Chair for 2026

Councillor Hwang and Councillor Cassar nominated Councillor Kroetsch to be appointed Chair of the Board of Health for 2026. There were no further nominations.

(Hwang/Cassar)

- (a) That the Nominations for the position of Chair of the Board of Health for 2026 be closed; and
- (b) That Councillor Kroetsch be appointed Chair of the Board of Health for 2026.

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor

YES - Wilson, Alex Ward 13 Councillor

(ii) Appointment of Vice-Chair for 2026

Councillor Kroetsch and Councillor Wilson nominated Member Joseph to be appointed Vice-Chair of the Board of Health for 2026. There were no further nominations.

(Kroetsch/Wilson)

- (a) That the Nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of the Board of Health for 2026 be closed; and
- (b) That Member Joseph be appointed Vice-Chair of the Board of Health for 2026.

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

Councillor Kroetsch assumed the Chair.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(Hwang/Kirkby)

That the agenda for the January 26, 2026, Board of Health, be approved, as presented.

CARRIED

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

5. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

There were no Ceremonial Activities.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

6.1 December 1, 2025

(Hwang/Joseph)

That the minutes of the December 1, 2025, meeting of the Board of Health, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

7. DELEGATIONS

There were no Delegations.

8. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8.1 BOH26002

**Hamilton Public Health Communications Framework and Strategy
(City Wide)**

(Hwang/Danko)

That Report BOH26002, dated January 26, 2026, respecting the Hamilton Public Health Communications Framework and Strategy (City Wide), be received.

CARRIED

9. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

9.1 BOH26005

Board of Health Adoption of Code of Conduct (City Wide)

(i) (Hwang/Janssen)

That Report BOH26005, dated January 26, 2026, respecting the Board of Health Adoption of Code of Conduct (City Wide), be received and the following recommendation, be approved:

(a) That the Board of Health ADOPT the City of Hamilton's Code of Conduct for Local Boards as its own Code of Conduct and that David Boghosian, the City's current Integrity Commissioner HAVE ALL THE POWERS AND DUTIES in respect of the Board of Health and its Code of Conduct as are provided for in the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

(ii) (Hwang/Joseph)

That Report BOH26005, dated January 26, 2026, respecting the Board of Health Adoption of Code of Conduct (City Wide), be DEFERRED to the next Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

9.2 **BOH26008**
Proposed Amendment to the Board of Health Delegation By-Law (City Wide)

(Hwang/Cassar)

That Report BOH26008, dated January 26, 2026, respecting Proposed Amendment to the Board of Health Delegation By-Law (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

- (a) That the following proposed amendments to the Board of Health By-law No. BOH 25-002, being the Delegation of Authority By-law, BE RECOMMENDED to Board of Health for approval:

(i) 6.3 Agreements with Governmental Authorities

- (1) The Medical Officer of Health is authorized to approve, amend, extend, and execute agreements with the government and its agencies from time to time provided that such agreements are consistent with the mandate of the Hamilton Board of Health and can be implemented within the approved budget of Hamilton Public Health Services. ***This authorization includes those agreements outside of the approved budget where additional funding is being provided due to, including but not limited to, increased financial need, new or increased government initiatives or an increase of government funds for public health programs and initiatives.***

(ii) 6.4 Service and Funding Agreements

- (1) The Medical Officer of Health is authorized to approve, amend, extend, and execute service agreements and funding agreements provided that such agreements;

- (c) are within approved budget limits, ***and as additionally set forth in 6.3 (1);***

- (b) That the necessary amending by-law BE PREPARED and BE PROVIDED to the Board of Health for consideration.

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

**9.3 BOH26001
Chief Medical Officer of Health 2024 Annual Report (City Wide)**

(Cassar/Danko)

That Report BOH26001, dated January 26, 2026, respecting the Chief Medical Officer of Health 2024 Annual Report (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

- (a) That the Board of Health DIRECT staff to write a letter, to be signed by the Board of Health Chair, to Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health (Ontario), to congratulate him on the 2024 Annual Report: "The Future of Immunization in Ontario"; and,
- (b) That the Board of Health DIRECT staff to write a letter, to be signed by the Board of Health Chair, to the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health, to express support for the recommendations provided in the Chief Medical Officer of Health's 2024 Annual Report: "The Future of Immunization in Ontario".

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

**9.4 BOH26003
Participation in the Association of Local Public Health Agencies
(aIPHa) 2026 Winter Symposium and Annual General Meeting (City
Wide)**

(Kirkby/Hwang)

That Report BOH26003, dated January 26, 2026, respecting Participation in the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) 2026 Winter Symposium and Annual General Meeting (City Wide), be received and the following recommendations, be approved:

- (a) That the following Board of Health members BE DESIGNATED by the Board to attend the 2026 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) 2026 Winter Symposium:
 - (i) Member Janssen;
- (b) That the following Board of Health members BE DESIGNATED by the Board to attend the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) Board of Health Section Meeting (tentatively April 2026):
 - (i) Councillor Kroetsch
- (c) That the following Board of Health members BE DESIGNATED by the Board to attend the 2026 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) Annual General Meeting & Conference:
 - (i) Councillor Kroetsch;
 - (ii) Member Kirkby; and,
- (d) That each of the Board of Health members approved in Recommendation (iii) above, along with Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Brendan Lew, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Melissa Biksa Director of Epidemiology & Well-Being and Julie Prieto, Director of Healthy Families, BE REGISTERED as the voting Delegates for the Resolution Session of the 2026 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) Annual General Meeting & Conference; and,
- (e) That costs associated with Board of Health representatives' participation in the 2026 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) Winter Symposium and Annual General & Conference BE BILLED to Dept ID 677050 / Account 56305 – Councillor's Conferences, to come from 2026 Hamilton Public Health budget.

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

YES - Adjekum, Sarah Citizen Member

YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

9.4 Amendments to the Outstanding Business List

(Tadeson/Danko)

That the Amendments to the Outstanding Business List, be approved, as follows:

- (a) Items Considered Complete and Needing to be Removed:
- (i) Black Soot Sampling and Community Engagement Feasibility Reports Update (Wards 2, 3 and 4)
Added: July 28, 2025 (Item 9.3)
Addressed: October 20, 2025 (Report BOH25026, Item 7.3)
 - (ii) Public Health Services 2026 Proposed User Fees (City Wide)
Added: October 20, 2025 (Item 8.1)
Addressed: December 1, 2025 (Report BOH25027, Item 8.1)
 - (iii) Mobilizing Hamilton Public Health Knowledge to Maximize Positive Health Impacts
Added: April 28, 2025 (Item 9.2)
Addressed: January 26, 2026 (Report BOH26002, Item 8.1)

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member

YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

Chair Kroetsch relinquished the Chair to Vice-Chair Joseph in order to introduce the following Items:

10. MOTIONS

10.1 Revision to the Hamilton Board of Health's Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy

(Kroetsch/Cassar)

WHEREAS the Board of Health, at its meeting held on July 7, 2025, approved the Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy for Board Members; and

WHEREAS, it is now necessary to amend the Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy for Board Members, so that members are required to provide a written report following their attendance at a conference, meeting, training, or event.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Hamilton Board of Health's Travel and Expense Reimbursement Policy, **be amended**, to read as follows:

Reporting

Board Members will provide a ~~verbal~~ **written** report to the Board at next scheduled Board of Health meeting following a conference, meeting, training, or event.

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

11.1 Amendment to the December 1, 2025, Board of Health Decision respecting Minute Item 8.2 (ii)(i), Report BOH25028, Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget (City Wide)

(i) (Kroetsch/Cassar)

That the Rules of Order be suspended to allow for the Introduction of a Motion respecting an Amendment to the December 1, 2025, Board of Health Decision respecting Minute Item 8.2 (ii)(i), Report BOH25028, Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget (City Wide).

Result: Motion CARRIED by a 2/3 Majority vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

(ii) (Kroetsch/Danko)

(a) That Minute Item 8.2 (ii)(i) of the December 1, 2025, Board of Health minutes respecting Report BOH25028, Public Health Services 2026 Proposed Budget, **be amended**, 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~~ **\$18.5 M**, or ~~4.5% 5.7%~~ **4.5%** over 2025 Public Health Services budget, BE APPROVED;

(b) ***That the Secretary for the Board of Health BE DIRECTED to inform the City of Hamilton of the change to the net levy request.***

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

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

Chair Kroetsch assumed the Chair.

12. PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

There were no Private & Confidential Items.

13. BY-LAWS

(i) (Wilson/Hwang)

That Section 13.1 of the Board's Procedural By-law BOH 25-001 which provides that the Board will only consider amendments or repeal of this By-law or any other by-law of the Board and any proposed new by-law of the Board if such was provided at a previous regular Board Meeting be suspended in order to consider Bill No. 26-001 (Item 13.1) at today's meeting.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a 2/3 Majority vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	- Adjekum, Sarah	Citizen Member
YES	- Cassar, Craig	Ward 12 Councillor
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

(ii) **(Hwang/Wilson)**

That Bills No. 26-001 and No. 26-002 be passed and the By-law, be numbered, be signed by the Chair and Secretary to read as follows:

- 001 A By-law to Amend By-law No. BOH 25-001, Delegation of Authority By-law
- 002 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
YES	- 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
ABSENT	- Nann, Nrinder	Ward 3 Councillor
YES	- Safi, Rami	Citizen Member
YES	- Tadeson, Mark	Ward 11 Councillor
YES	- Wilson, Alex	Ward 13 Councillor

14. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Board of Health was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Gauthier
Acting Secretary
Office of the City Clerk

Councillor Cameron Kroetsch
Chair
Board of Health