

CITY OF HAMILTON

***PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
Clinical and Preventive Services***

TO: Mayor and Members Board of Health	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: November 19, 2012	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Continued Funding for Health Initiatives for Youth BOH10003(a) (City Wide)	
SUBMITTED BY: Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services	PREPARED BY: Fiona Newton 905-546-2424 Ext. 3284
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION:

- (a) That the Board of Health approve the extension of the current contract with Health Initiatives for Youth Hamilton to provide provincially mandated sexual health clinic services to residents of downtown central Hamilton, for the term of January 1 2013 to December 31, 2014, with an option to further extend the contract until December 31, 2016, at an annual cost of \$165,216 to be funded from the Public Health Services operating budget;
- (b) That the Medical Officer of Health be authorized to execute an agreement between the City and Health Initiatives for Youth Hamilton to implement the above recommendation in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public Health Services (PHS) directly provides provincially mandated sexual health clinic services at four City office locations including East Mountain, Dundas, Waterdown

and the lower Stoney Creek. This report recommends that the contract with Health Initiatives for Youth Hamilton (HIFY) be extended to provide sexual health services in central Hamilton in keeping with the Ontario Public Health Standards. The HIFY contract is an interim measure to ensure that clinic services continue to be offered downtown until the new McMaster Health Centre is completed. HIFY services will no longer be necessary once the PHS sexual health clinic is opened at the McMaster Health Centre site. HIFY is in agreement with this change, as it is in keeping with the direction the organization is taking.

Alternatives for Consideration – See Page 3

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for Recommendation(s) only)

Financial: The current PHS budget includes the funds necessary to continue the contract with HIFY with no additional costs to the City. This is a 75/25 cost shared budget.

Staffing: The recommendation will have no impact on staffing. PHS Sexual Health Program staff and HIFY staff currently share expertise in the form of presentations and informal discussions. PHS Sexual Health Medical Director and Program Manager meet annually with the Executive Director of HIFY to discuss common client services issues.

Legal: Sexual Health Clinic Services are mandated under the Ontario Public Health Standards and must be accessible. The City's Legal Services Division has reviewed the contract.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

HIFY has been in operation since 1932, originally known as the Elizabeth Bagshaw Planned Parenthood Society of Hamilton. HIFY has received funding from PHS since 1970 to provide sexual health services to adolescents in the downtown area. The clinic is currently located at 151 York Boulevard across from Sir John A MacDonald School. The current contract's term is April 1, 2010 to December 31, 2012, at a cost of \$165,216 annually. The clinic is open Tuesday to Friday 2:00-5:00 pm and is staffed by a registered nurse and registered practical nurse from Tuesday to Thursday and a registered nurse and medical practitioner on Friday. The sexual health services provided are consistent with the Ontario Public Health Standards including the provision of low cost contraception, testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections, pregnancy testing, provision of emergency contraception and health teaching and counselling.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

In December 2007, HIFY was the only agency to respond to an Expression of Interest put forth by the City's Procurement Division. Subsequently, the Procurement Division determined that HIFY is a sole source provider of sexual health services in downtown Hamilton and an RFP is not required.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

The following City of Hamilton staff were consulted:

- *Procurement Division* - confirmed HIFY qualifies as a sole source provider of sexual health clinic services in downtown Hamilton;
- *Legal Services Division* - reviewed and recommended changes to the contract that will be put forward to HIFY.

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

The City of Hamilton has had a long standing relationship with HIFY to provide these sexual health services in the downtown area. The City of Hamilton does not currently have a location to provide sexual health clinic services in central downtown Hamilton. In 2015, PHS will provide sexual health clinic services at the McMaster Health Centre. An Expression of Interest was put forth in December 2007 in accordance with the City's Purchasing Policy. HIFY was the only agency who responded to the Expression of Interest and are deemed a sole source provider of sexual health clinic services in downtown central Hamilton.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

1. The BOH could decide to not renew the HIFY contract and open a full service clinic in the downtown core.

Financial: Given the anticipated opening of the McMaster Health Centre, it would be a significant investment in outfitting a clinic space for short term use only.

Staffing: Additional staffing would be required to replace the existing staffing at HIFY, which are 1.0 FTE Public Health Nurse and 0.5 FTE receptionist.

Legal: The current agreement with HIFY ends December 31, 2012. Sexual Health Services are mandated under the Ontario Public Health Standards.

2. The BOH could decide to not renew the HIFY contract and provide limited services out of an existing PHS office space in the downtown core.

Financial: Services would be limited to services that the public health nurses could provide without a physician or nurse practitioner, including the provision of low cost birth control, and some testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections. This site would not provide services such as PAPs, wart treatments, and other care provided by physicians or nurse practitioners. Downtown clients requiring more complicated care would be referred to the other clinic sites. Additional expense would be incurred from the cost to transport clients via taxi/public transportation to other clinic sites.

Staffing: Additional 0.5 FTE Public Health Nurse and 0.5 FTE Receptionist would be required to provide this service currently provided by HIFY.

Legal: The current agreement with HIFY ends December 31, 2012. Sexual Health Services are mandated under the Ontario Public Health Standards.

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Focus Areas: 1. Skilled, Innovative and Respectful Organization, 2. Financial Sustainability, 3. Intergovernmental Relationships, 4. Growing Our Economy, 5. Social Development, 6. Environmental Stewardship, 7. Healthy Community

Skilled, Innovative & Respectful Organization

- ◆ A culture of excellence

Social Development

- ◆ Residents in need have access to adequate support services

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES

No appendices or schedules.