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Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

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REGION OF PEEL
CLERKS DEPT.

January 7, 2016

HLTC2976IT-2015-267

Dear Heads of Council,

We are writing to you today to draw your attention to a significant public health issue and to seek your support to address this important issue at the municipal level. There are a growing number of communities across Ontario that are choosing to discontinue fluoridation of their municipal drinking water system in spite of consistent evidence that water fluoridation is a safe and effective method to reduce the risk of oral health problems for Ontarians.

Tooth decay is the single most common chronic disease among Canadian children. The importance of maintaining good oral health should not be taken lightly - it is an important part of being healthy overall. Poor oral health is linked to diabetes, heart disease, respiratory conditions, osteoporosis, rheumatoid arthritis and low birth weight in babies. As such, water fluoridation is, and must be recognized, as a very important measure to protect the health of Ontarians.

X The benefits of water fluoridation are well documented. More than 90 national and international professional health organizations, including Health Canada, the Canadian Public Health Association, the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Dental Association, the Canadian Medical Association, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization, have endorsed the use of fluoride at recommended levels to prevent tooth decay. In fact, the use of fluoride in drinking water has been called one of the greatest public health achievements of the 20th century by the CDC. According to expert research, fluoridated drinking water reduces the number of cavities in children's teeth, which contributes to their healthy development. Reductions of tooth decay have also been observed in adults and seniors who reside in communities with fluoridated water.

REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED _____
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____

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Water fluoridation helps to reduce the cost of dental care. The Ontario Dental Association has stated that the cost of providing dental care if waiting until tooth decay occurs is much higher than the cost of preventing it. The CDC estimates that for every \$1 invested in community water fluoridation, \$38 is saved in dental treatment. Removing fluoride from drinking water will place those least able to afford or access dental treatment at a much higher risk for oral health problems. The health benefits of drinking water fluoridation extend to all residents in a community, regardless of age, socioeconomic status, education or employment.

Municipal leaders should consider carefully the range of factors and implications of removing fluoridation from municipal drinking water systems. We urge all of you to support fluoridation of drinking water in your communities so that everyone can enjoy the long-term health benefits.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister



David C. Williams, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health

c. Roselle Martino, Assistant Deputy Minister, Population and Public Health Division

Private Members' Motions

Session 2, Parliament 41

A motion is a proposal a member makes that requires a decision from the House. The House may discuss the motion before it makes a decision. The House can agree to the motion or disagree to the motion.

The text displayed on this page is the most current version of each motion introduced during the current session of Parliament. Click "Amendment History" to view all proposed amendments to the motion.

To search for a specific motion, start typing a keyword into the filter box.

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Mr Delaney

That, in the opinion of this House, the Province of Ontario, upon passage of this resolution, act to replace the outdated Fluoridation Act with an updated section of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, and remove the portions of the Ontario Municipal Act that allow a municipality to either opt out of fluoridation of its drinking water once the process has started, or to fall to start the fluoridation of municipal drinking water; and that the Province of Ontario work with municipalities to provide financial and technical assistance to Ontario cities and towns to begin water fluoridation, or to continue and upgrade fluoridation equipment and processes so that all Ontarians, to the fullest extent practicable, are protected with municipal drinking water fluoridation.

Type	Date	Member	Event	Outcome
motion	October 06, 2016	Bob Delaney	moved	
motion	October 06, 2016		debated	
motion	October 06, 2016		vote	carried

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Mississauga MPP Delaney wades into Peel water fluoridation debate

News Oct 19, 2016 by **Roger Belgrave** (</mississauga-on-author/roger-belgrave/6e566a9c-b20b-40bb-9cd1-496ed68b56be/>) ✉ (<mailto:rbelgrave@thebramptonguardian.com>) Mississauga News

Mississauga-Streetsville MPP Bob Delaney waded into the local water fluoridation debate last week when he introduced a Queen's Park motion that revealed wide political support for making the longtime drinking water treatment mandatory in all Ontario communities.

Delaney moved a private member's notice of motion requesting support for the position that all Ontario communities have access to fluoridated drinking water.

Furthermore, he sought support for repealing the Fluoridation Act.

The "outdated" act would be replaced with Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act provisions and Ontario Municipal Act amendments that compel municipalities to fluoridate municipal drinking water.

His motion received unanimous support from MPPs in the legislature Oct. 6.

Delaney explained acceptance of the motion doesn't put into force any new legislation.

However, he noted, it does signal to the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care that the legislative changes it is currently working on will have the full support of the legislature when brought forward.

"What it carries is an expression of the will of the legislature and says to the Ministry of Health if you choose to introduce such measures, don't expect any problem getting them passed," Delaney said.

He hopes political support for the motion also sends a clear message to Peel Region.

The municipality is currently conducting a review of water fluoridation to develop a recommendation on whether the longstanding practice should continue.

"My residents do not want to lose fluoridation," Delaney insisted.

[After much debate, in 2011 Peel Region council unanimously voted to continue fluoridating local drinking water. \(news-story/3075458-peel-fluoride-debate/\)](/news-story/3075458-peel-fluoride-debate/)

A number of health officials, including Ontario's former chief medical officer of health, said research and evidence provide scientific proof water fluoridation has **[great public health value. \(/community-story/3076218-fluoride-levels-fine-peel-health/\)](/community-story/3076218-fluoride-levels-fine-peel-health/)**

[A persistent anti-fluoride lobby got the political debate reopened in Peel earlier this year. \(news-story/6254241-debate-on-water-fluoridation-back-on-tap-for-peel-council/\)](/news-story/6254241-debate-on-water-fluoridation-back-on-tap-for-peel-council/)

"Nine per cent of Ontario, which is Peel Region, is at risk of being put in harms way if Peel council listens to junk science instead of real science," Delaney remarked.

Last week, Peel Region's Community Water Fluoridation Committee heard from New Delhi researcher and professor Dr. A.K. Susheela

The internationally recognized anti-fluoridation expert called fluoride "**[a deadly poison \(/news-story/6912754--fluoride-is-a-deadly-poison-peel-s-water-fluoridation-committee-has-heard/\)](/news-story/6912754--fluoride-is-a-deadly-poison-peel-s-water-fluoridation-committee-has-heard/)** that does more harm than good in municipal drinking water.

X Our Privacy Policy is updating effective December 14, 2017. [Click here](#) to see more.



Office of the Chair

February 22, 2017

Resolution Number 2017-68

The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister:

**Subject: Motion of the Community Water Fluoridation Committee (CWFC-1/2017)
Regarding Regional Fluoridation**

I am writing to advise that Regional Council approved the following resolution at its meeting held on Thursday, February 9, 2017:

Resolution 2017-68:

Whereas the Minister of Health and Long Term Care is working to establish a health system in Ontario that is based on helping people stay healthy, delivering good care when people need it, and protecting the health system for future generations;

And whereas, the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care has changed its focus to work towards better health care for Ontarians, and stewardship has become its mission and mandate;

And whereas, this new stewardship role will mean that the Ministry will provide overall direction and leadership for the system, developing legislation, regulations, standards, policies and directives to support the health of Ontarians;

And whereas, on January 7, 2016 the Region of Peel received a letter from the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, Dr. Eric Hoskins, supporting the benefits of water fluoridation as an important measure to protect the health of Ontarians;

And whereas, the Province of Ontario is responsible for *The Safe Drinking Water Act*, the purposes of which include (i) recognizing that the people of Ontario are entitled to expect their drinking water be safe and (ii) providing for the protection of human health and the prevention of drinking water health hazards through the control and regulation of drinking water systems and drinking water testing;

And whereas, Municipal Councillors do not have the detailed familiarity to interpret data regarding the efficacy of Hydrofluorosilicic Acid [HFSA] in water

fluoridation treatments and are struggling with a range of conflicting reports and public concern on the matter of fluoridation;

Therefore be it resolved, that Regional of Peel Council request the Premier of Ontario, and the Minister of Health and Long Term Care, whose mandate it is to protect the health of Ontarians, (i) to undertake appropriate and comprehensive toxicity testing necessary to reassure the public that the use of HFSA in water fluoridation treatments is safe; and (ii) take legislative responsibility for the regulation and administration of HFSA in water fluoridation treatments across the province relieving local governments from what is a provincial responsibility;

And further, that copies of this resolution be circulated to MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and municipalities across Ontario.

On behalf of Regional Council, I request that you give consideration to the above resolution.



Frank Dale
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer

FD:sm

c: Ontario MPP's
Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario
Ontario Municipalities
Nancy Polsinelli, Commissioner, Health Services, Region of Peel
Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health, Region of Peel