



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health / CEO

DATE: 2018 October 18

SUBMISSION TO ENVIRONMENTAL REGISTRY ONTARIO ON BILL 4: CAP AND TRADE CANCELLATION ACT 2018

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 066-18 Re: “Submission to Environmental Registry Ontario on Bill 4: Cap and Trade Cancellation Act 2018” be received for information.

Key Points

- In 2014, MLHU commissioned a report entitled “[Assessment of Vulnerability to the Health Impacts of Climate Change in Middlesex-London](#).”
- With the release of the International Panel on Climate Change’s [Global Warming at 1.5 C](#) report, the threat posed by climate change is even more clear. impacts of climate change on population health, MLHU provided comments on the need for robust climate change policies at the provincial level.
- The provincial government has announced its intent to repeal Cap and Trade carbon policies in Ontario. With a short comment period for public submissions on the legislation, MLHU staff have submitted comments based on past Board of Health discussions and decisions.

Background

Recently, the provincial government introduced Bill 4, The Cap and Trade Cancellation Act, 2018, which will eliminate Cap and Trade carbon policies in Ontario. Environmental Registry Ontario (ERO) opened a 30-day comment period for citizens and agencies to provide input into this proposed legislation. This comment period ended on October 11.

Given the demonstrated and anticipated effects of climate change on population health, it was important that public health agencies submit comments summarizing these effects and emphasizing the need to ensure that the provincial government develop a comprehensive plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and take mitigative measures against the effects of climate change, should Cap and Trade be repealed.

The Middlesex-London Health Unit prepared and submitted comments to the ERO review process that identified the mandate public health has been given to identify and plan for the effects of climate change ([Appendix A](#)). These comments also included an attachment of the 2014 MLHU report referenced above.

This report was prepared by the Food Safety & Healthy Environments Team, Environmental Health and Infectious Disease Division.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Mackie'.

Christopher Mackie, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health / CEO