

CORRESPONDENCE – January 2020

- a) Date: 2019 November 27 [Received December 10]
Topic: Endorsement of Correspondence re: Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Ontario
From: Fred Eisenberger, Mayor, City of Hamilton
To: The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health

Background:

On November 27, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health wrote to Minister Elliott endorsing correspondence from 1) Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health 2) Simcoe Muskoka District Healthy Unit and 3) Windsor-Essex County Health Unit in support of the measures to address the rise of vaping in Ontario. Refer to correspondence item d) in the [November 21, 2019 Board of Health agenda](#).

Recommendation: Receive.

- b) Date: 2019 November 27 [Received December 10]
Topic: Endorsement of Regional Municipality of Durham's Motion re: Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution
From: Fred Eisenberger, Mayor, City of Hamilton
To: The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, Health Canada, The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, Ministry of Health, Ontario

Background:

On November 27, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health wrote to Minister Patty Hajdu and Minister Christine Elliott in support of the correspondence received from the Regional Municipality of Durham in support of their motion on an Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution. Refer to correspondence item m) in the [November 21, 2019 Board of Health agenda](#).

Recommendation: Receive.

- c) Date: 2019 December 9
Topic: Schedule 16 of Proposed Bill 132 Respecting the *Aggregate Resources Act*
From: Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health
To: The Honourable John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry

Background:

On December 9, 2019, the Board of Health for Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) wrote to Minister Yakabuski to express concerns over the amendments to the *Aggregate Resources Act* that could impact the protection of groundwater resources within the region. The proposed amendments limit the ability of municipalities to protect their local groundwater, and consequently, valuable drinking water resources. WDGPH encourages the provincial government to reconsider the removal of municipal authority to use zoning by-laws to regulate the depth of aggregate extraction activities.

Recommendation: Receive.

- d) Date: 2019 December 3 [Received December 11]
Topic: E-Cigarette and Aerosolized Product Prevention and Cessation
From: Sudbury & Districts Public Health
To: The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, Ministry of Health, Ontario

Background:

On December 3, 2019, The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts wrote to Minister Elliott to convey their congratulations on the recent decision to ban the promotion of vapour products in corner stores and gas stations. In addition, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts further urges for the adoption of an expert-informed comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy to address flavoured e-juice, online sales to minors, treatment programs for youth cessation, and public education.

Recommendation: Receive.

- e) Date: 2019 November 27 [Received December 10]
Topic: Endorsement of Comprehensive Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Canada
From: Fred Eisenberger, Mayor, City of Hamilton
To: The Honourable Patty Hajdu

Background:

On November 27, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health wrote to Minister Hajdu in support of the correspondence from Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health regarding comprehensive measure to address the rise of vaping in Canada. Refer to correspondence item f) in the [November 21, 2019 Board of Health agenda](#).

Recommendation: Receive.

- f) Date: 2019 December 18
Topic: National Universal Pharmacare Program
From: Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit
To: The Honourable Patty Hajdu

Background:

On December 18, 2019, the Board of Health for Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit wrote to Minister Hajdu urging the Federal government to follow through on the promise to develop a national universal pharmacare program. A publicly funded health system that does not cover the cost of prescription medications is a barrier for many people receiving treatment they need for health problems.

Recommendation: Receive.

g) Date: 2019 December 18
Topic: Association of Local Public Health Agency (alPHa) Moving notice
From: alPHa
To: All Health Units

Background:

Effective December 19, 2019 the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) moved to a new address: 480 University Avenue, Suite 300, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1V2.

Recommendation: Receive.

h) Date: 2019 December 19
Topic: Stricter rules of vaping product promotion and finalizing labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products
From: James Van Look, Director General, Tobacco Control Directorate
To: All Health Units

Background:

On December 19, 2019, Mr. Van Look wrote to all health units to advise that Health Canada proposes stricter rules on vaping product promotion and on finalizing labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products. The proposed Vaping Products Promotion Regulation (VPPR) would prohibit all advertising that can be seen or heard by youth, with minor exceptions, and would prohibit the display of vaping products in retail locations, including online, that can be seen by youth. The regulations would also require that a health warning be conveyed in vaping product advertisements that are not prohibited. Consultation on the proposed regulations will run until January 20, 2020. Health Canada welcomes written submissions or input provided online.

Recommendation: Receive.

i) Date: 2019 December 20 [Received December 24]
Topic: Mr. Michael Clarke, Provincial Appointment Term
From: The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health
To: Dr. Michael Clarke, Middlesex-London Board of Health

Background:

On December 20, 2019, Minister Elliott wrote to Dr. Clarke to thank him for his time serving on the Board of Health for Middlesex-London Health Unit. Dr. Clarke's current appointment will come to an end on February 29, 2020.

Recommendation: Receive.

j) Date: 2019 January 2
Topic: Request for Weekly Data Reports on Vaping Cases
From: Peterborough Public Health
To: The Honourable Christine Elliott

Background:

On January 2, 2020, the Board of Health for Peterborough Public Health received correspondence from the City of Hamilton requesting that cases of vaping-related severe pulmonary disease in Hamilton hospitals be shared with Hamilton's Medical Officers of Health. Refer to correspondence item f) in the [December 12, 2019 Board of Health agenda](#). The Board of Health for Peterborough Public Health is requesting the same information from Peterborough Regional Health Centre be shared with Peterborough's Medical Officer to Health.

Recommendation: Receive.

- k) Date: 2019 January 9
Topic: Display and promotion of vaping products
From: Porcupine Health Unit
To: The Honourable Patty Hadju, Ministry of Health, Health Canada, The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, Ontario

Background:

On January 9, 2020, Porcupine Health Unit Board of Health wrote to Minister Hadju and Minister Elliott in support of the correspondence received from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit regarding the promotion and display of vaping products. Refer to correspondence item a) in the [October 17, 2019 Board of Health agenda](#). The Board of Health for Porcupine Health Unit also requests that the recommendations forwarded by the Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada be considered in the development of new regulations with respect to vaping.

Recommendation: Receive.

- l) Date: 2019 January 9 [Received January 10]
Topic: Mr. Robert Parker, Provincial Appointment Term
From: The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health
To: Middlesex-London Health Unit

Background:

On January 9, 2020, Mr. Robert Parker was appointed as a part time member of the Board of Health for the Middlesex-London Health Unit, effective until December 31, 2020.

Recommendation: Receive.



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

November 27, 2019

VIA: Mail and Email

ATTN: Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Ontario
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
Christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Re: Endorsement of Correspondence re: Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Ontario

Dear Minister Elliott,

At its meeting on November 16, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health endorsed the following correspondence regarding comprehensive measures to address the rise of vaping in Ontario: September 27, 2019 - Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, respecting a Resolution regarding the Immediate Removal of Regulation 268 of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*; October 30, 2019 – Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit respecting Restrictions of Vaping Products and Flavoured E- cigarettes; and, October 24, 2019 – Windsor-Essex County Health Unit respecting the Harms of Vaping and the Next Steps for Regulation.

We wish to commend your decision to prohibit the promotion of vapour products in convenience stores and gas stations effective January 1, 2020. This regulatory amendment to the *Smoke Free Ontario Act, 2017* will have immediate and long-lasting benefits, protecting the health of the youth in our province.

However, the sharp increase in youth vaping rates is especially concerning given the availability and promotion of vapour products containing nicotine, the impact of nicotine on the developing brain, and the recent upward trending of cigarette smoking among this population. Our concerns are further compounded by the vaping-related pulmonary disease reports emerging in the United States and Canada. While vapour products are generally regarded as safer than combustible tobacco cigarettes, these products are not risk-free and are known to contain and emit potentially toxic substances. The emerging concerns surrounding vaping calls for a regulatory framework that provides equal protection for all Ontarians.

Hamilton Public Health Services' comprehensive tobacco control interventions across prevention, protection, cessation and enforcement include preventing experimentation

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and escalation of tobacco use among children youth and young adults. However, in Hamilton, sales of vapour product or e-cigarettes to persons under the age of 19 have so far doubled in 2019 in comparison to all of 2018. There also is a marginal increase in tobacco sales to persons less than 19 years old in 2019 in comparison to 2018.

Immediate action is needed to curb the impacts of vaping given the increasing vaping rates among youth, widespread promotion of vaping products, and emerging concerns about vaping-related pulmonary illness. Targeted policy measures such as limiting vapour product display and advertising in convenience store strengthening penalties for retailers with a history of repeated sales to minors convictions (e.g. regulations and protections for tobacco such as the Automatic Prohibition); and restricting flavours would substantially impact youth vaping, while limiting impacts on vendors who respect restrictions against selling to young people.

As such, the City of Hamilton Board of Health endorses the following and urges:

- a) That the Provincial Government immediately remove Regulation 268 of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, so that retailers of vaping products will not be allowed to promote them, and so that the promotion and display of vape products are subject to the same prohibition as tobacco products;
- b) That the Provincial Government make amendments to the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017* restricting the promotion and marketing of vaping product and the sale of flavoured vaping products, and applies all regulations and protections for tobacco, such as the Automatic Prohibition, to vaping retailers; and,
- c) That the Provincial Government call for restrictions to ban flavoured e-cigarettes, as the evidence clearly supports that the thousands of flavours of e-liquid available, including candy and fruit-flavoured varieties, are a significant factor in youth uptake and use.

Sincerely,



Fred Eisenberger

Mayor

CC:

Hon. Bob Bratina, MP, Hamilton East – Stoney Creek
Hon. Scott Duvall, MP, Hamilton Mountain
Hon. Matthew Green, MP, Hamilton Centre
Hon. Filomena Tassi, MP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa)
Ontario Boards of Health



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

November 27, 2019

VIA: Mail and Email

ATTN: Hon. Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health
Health Canada
Address Locator 0900C2
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9
hcmminister.ministresc@canada.ca

ATTN: Hon. Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
Ministry of Health, Ontario
777 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3
christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

RE: Endorsement of Regional Municipality of Durham's Motion re: Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution

Honourable Ministers of Health,

At a meeting on November 18, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health endorsed the October 24, 2019 correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Durham, regarding their motion on an Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution.

Within the City of Hamilton, the impact of opioid related health issues continues to rise. This city continues to be disproportionately affected by the opioid crisis with rates for opioid related emergency hospital visits, hospitalizations and deaths that are higher than the Ontario provincial average. In 2017, Hamilton opioid related poisonings were 20.4 deaths per 100,000 vs. Vancouver rates of 20.2 deaths per 100,000. Opioid related death rates for 2018 continued to rise, and early reports for 2019 indicate this trend is continuing. Demands on emergency medical services including paramedicine services, emergency department visits and hospitalizations continue to escalate and represent a significant cost to the health care system. The cost of the opioid crisis on human life and the subsequent implications for persons who are using substances and their family and friends is beyond measure.

The harms related to opioid use not only include opioid poisonings, but also include opioid use disorders, adverse drug reactions, neonatal withdrawal, secondary infections

Endorsement of Regional Municipality of Durham's Motion re: Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution

such as HIV, Hepatitis, invasive group A streptococcal infections, endocarditis, pervasive individual trauma and community violence. These harms contribute to the need for the declaration of an Opioid Emergency across the province and the country.

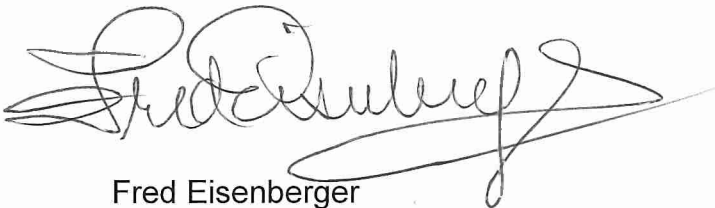
The factors that lead to opioid use and substance use disorder are multiple and pervasive. Trauma, violence, and economic disparity are a few of the components of this issue. Many factors are related to social determinants of health and thus require long term, persistent and co-ordinated approaches in order to have an impact on the harms caused by opioid misuse.

At its November 18, 2019 meeting, the Hamilton Board of Health recommended that the City Council acknowledge and declare an Opioid Emergency in the City of Hamilton. This declaration recognizes and underscores the seriousness of this issue and allows for renewed attention and continued collective action. The City of Hamilton, like other regions and urban centres needs the support of the federal government and Minister of Health to combat this crisis. This support would best come in the way of public affirmation of the seriousness of this issue, a co-ordinated federal and provincial drug strategy and funding to support and expand evidence-based responses that support all pillars of drug strategy: prevention, harm reduction, treatment and social justice.

This multifaceted approach is addressed in the correspondence from the Regional Municipality of Durham, which outlines specific recommendations from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Mayor's Task Force and Association of Municipalities Ontario to combat this epidemic. In addition, at its meeting on November 27, 2019 Hamilton City Council endorsed urging the Minister of Health to seek authority from Health Canada to import diacetylmorphine (pharmaceutical heroin) for use as a managed opioid program medication.

The recommendations in the endorsed letter provide a roadmap for success through the declaration of a national epidemic, co-ordination of response across the country and funding to support public health units and Boards of Health to continue to provide evidence-based interventions to address the opioid crisis such as managed opioid programs and services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Eisenberger", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the end of the name.

Fred Eisenberger

Endorsement of Regional Municipality of Durham's Motion re: Opioid Overdose Emergency Resolution

Mayor

CC:

Hon. Bob Bratina, MP, Hamilton East – Stoney Creek

Hon. Scott Duvall, MP, Hamilton Mountain

Hon. Matthew Green, MP, Hamilton Centre

Hon. Filomena Tassi, MP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)

Ontario Boards of Health

December 9, 2019

DELIVERED VIA E-MAIL

The Honourable John Yakabuski
Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry
Whitney Block
Suite 6630, 6th Floor
99 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 1W3

Dear Minister:

Re: Schedule 16 of Proposed Bill 132 Respecting the *Aggregate Resources Act*

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health (WDGPH) encourages you to consider the impact that proposed amendments to the *Aggregate Resources Act* could have on protecting groundwater resources in Wellington and Dufferin Counties and the City of Guelph.

Residents of Fergus, Orangeville and Guelph get their drinking water from ground water resources. The proposed amendments could negatively impact the groundwater that supplies these large municipal residential drinking water systems, as well as hundreds of other smaller drinking water systems, and over 30,000 private wells.

In the past, Wellington County, Dufferin County and the City of Guelph have passed zoning by-laws that trigger a zone change application when an operator applies to increase the depth of aggregate extraction. This process enables the municipality to require the submission of studies to assess potential groundwater impacts to prevent negative impacts and protect vital local groundwater resources.

The proposed amendments to Schedule 16 of Bill 132 limits the ability of municipalities to protect their local groundwater, and consequently, valuable drinking water resources. WDGPH believes that municipalities have an important role to play in protecting their local groundwater resources on behalf of their residents and that this oversight role should be maintained.

WDGPH understands that the government wants to protect groundwater resources and therefore encourages you to carefully reconsider amendments to the *Aggregate Resources Act* that remove municipal authority to use zoning by-laws to regulate the depth of aggregate extraction activities.

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Thank you for giving this matter your every consideration.

Sincerely,



George Bridge,
Chair, WDGPH Board of Health

- c.c. Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health – via e-mail
- c.c. Hon. Sylvia Jones, MPP (Dufferin-Caledon) - via e-mail
- c.c. Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP (Wellington-Halton-Hills)- via e-mail
- c.c. Randy Pettapiece, MPP (Perth-Wellington) – via e-mail
- c.c. Mike Schreiner, MPP (Guelph) – via e-mail
- c.c. Ontario Public Health Units – via e-mail
- c.c. Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO (WDGPH) – via e-mail



**Public Health
Santé publique**
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

December 3, 2019

VIA EMAIL

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Elliott:

Re: E-Cigarette and Aerosolized Product Prevention and Cessation

On behalf of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, I am very pleased to convey our congratulations on your recent decision to protect Ontarians by banning the promotion of vapour products in corner stores and gas stations. This is an important first step in reducing exposure and accessibility to vapour products and working toward improving the health of Ontarians.

By the enclosed resolution, the Board of Health further urges the adoption of an expert-informed comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy to address flavoured e-juice, online sales to minors, treatment programs for youth cessation, and public education.

Minister, we recognize that your Ministry is committed to establishing a patient centered system for health, and to ensuring system sustainability for Ontarians now and into the future. To this end, we strongly endorse that any vaping strategy is firmly grounded in the connect between vaping and tobacco use.

As you are aware, although vaping is not without risk, tobacco causes nearly 16 000 deaths per yearⁱ and costs Ontario nearly \$7 billion (\$2.7 billion direct health care, \$4.2 billion indirect costs) annually.ⁱⁱ Cigarettes are known to be toxic and cause cancer, lung, and heart disease when used as intendedⁱⁱⁱ and nearly one in five Ontarians continue to smoke^{iv}. Reducing supply and exposure to products must be part of the system sustainability goal. This holds true for tobacco and anything that may

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Rainbow Centre

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON POM 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON POP 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

101 rue Pine Street E
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON POM 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

Toll-free / Sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca

@PublicHealthSD



promote or normalize its use, such as vaping. Below, we are sharing a compelling infographic developed by Public Health Sudbury & Districts to convey this important message to our publics.

Thank you again for your leadership in the protection of youth from the risks of vaping. We urge you to consider in your next steps the linkages between vaping and tobacco and develop a comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy. Please know that the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts is a committed local partner in this important work.

Sincerely,



René Lapierre, Chair
Board of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

Enclosures (2)

cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs
All Ontario Boards of Health
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
The Honourable Jamie West, MPP, Sudbury
The Honourable France Gélinas, MPP, Nickel Belt
The Honourable Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Pegeen Walsh, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association
Constituent Municipalities within Public Health Sudbury & Districts
The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario

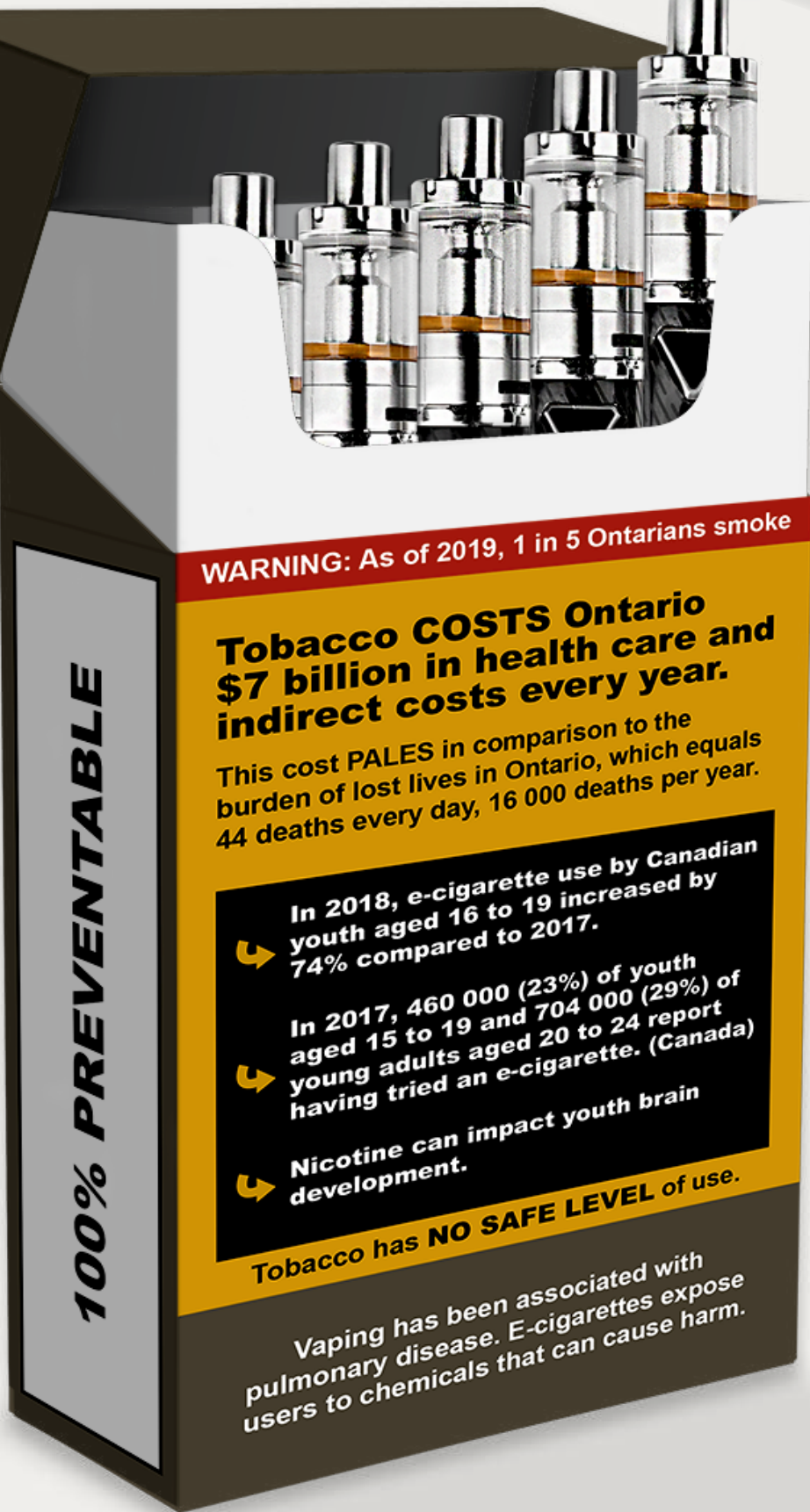
ⁱ Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. (2018, May 3) Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. Letter. Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy.

ⁱⁱ CCO and Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). (2019). The burden of chronic diseases in Ontario: key estimates to support efforts in prevention. Toronto: Queen's Printer for Ontario.

ⁱⁱⁱ Health Canada. (2019). Smoking, vaping and tobacco. Retrieved from <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/smoking-tobacco/vaping.html>

^{iv} Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. (2018). Smoke-Free Ontario: The Next Chapter – 2018. Toronto: Queen's Printer for Ontario. Retrieved from http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/common/ministry/publications/reports/SmokeFreeOntario/SFO_The_Next_Chapter.pdf





WARNING: As of 2019, 1 in 5 Ontarians smoke

Tobacco COSTS Ontario \$7 billion in health care and indirect costs every year.

This cost PALES in comparison to the burden of lost lives in Ontario, which equals 44 deaths every day, 16 000 deaths per year.

- In 2018, e-cigarette use by Canadian youth aged 16 to 19 increased by 74% compared to 2017.
- In 2017, 460 000 (23%) of youth aged 15 to 19 and 704 000 (29%) of young adults aged 20 to 24 report having tried an e-cigarette. (Canada)
- Nicotine can impact youth brain development.

Tobacco has NO SAFE LEVEL of use.

Vaping has been associated with pulmonary disease. E-cigarettes expose users to chemicals that can cause harm.

The need for a comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy

The **rapid** proliferation of e-cigarette use is fuelling mass recruitment of new consumers by an established industry, which profits from nicotine addiction.

Many e-cigarette users are **unaware** of the potential harms of regular or occasional use. There is evidence that e-cigarette use **increases youth uptake of tobacco**.

Tobacco continues to kill its users and cause cancer, lung and heart disease, and grips 1.8 million Ontarians daily.

Ingredients of a **comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy** include cessation, prevention (denormalization, education, taxation), and protection (enforcement, controls, regulations).

In time, e-cigarettes may be proven to help people quit smoking. What's the message to everyone else?

IF YOU DON'T SMOKE, DON'T VAPE.



WARNING!

Moved by Hazlett - Thain

Approved by Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, November 21, 2019

48-19 E-CIGARETTE AND AEROSOLIZED PRODUCT PREVENTION AND CESSATION

WHEREAS the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts has a longstanding history of proactive and effective action to prevent tobacco and emerging product use and to promote tobacco use cessation; and

WHEREAS electronic cigarettes are increasingly popular in Canada, especially among youth and among smokers, including 15% of Canadian youths and 10% of local youths reporting having tried e-cigarettes; and

WHEREAS there is increasing concern about the health hazards of using e-cigarettes including nicotine addiction, transition to tobacco products especially among youth, and emerging risks of severe pulmonary illness; and

WHEREAS the Ontario government recently announced restrictions on the promotion of e-cigarettes and products that will come into effect January 2020;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, while congratulating the Minister of Health on the restrictions on e-cigarette promotion, urge the adoption of an expert-informed comprehensive tobacco and e-cigarette strategy to address flavoured e-juice, online sales to minors, treatment programs for youth cessation, and public education; and

FURTHER that the Board urge the Minister to work with provincial, territorial and federal counterparts to adopt other evidence-informed strategies such as taxation, use prohibition, industry denormalization, and cross-Canada public education to address this emerging public health issue.

CARRIED WITH FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

November 27, 2019

VIA: Mail and Email

ATTN: Hon. Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health
Health Canada
Address Locator 0900C2
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9
Hcminister.ministresc@canada.ca

RE: Endorsement of Comprehensive Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Canada

Dear Minister Hajdu,

At its meeting on November 16, 2019, the City of Hamilton Board of Health endorsed the October 16, 2019 correspondence from Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health, respecting comprehensive measures to address the rise of vaping in Canada.

The sharp increase in youth vaping rates is especially concerning given the availability and promotion of vapour products containing nicotine, the impact of nicotine on the developing brain, and the recent upward trending of cigarette smoking among this population. Our concerns are further compounded by the vaping-related pulmonary disease reports emerging in the United States and Canada. While vapour products are generally regarded as safer than combustible tobacco cigarettes, these products are not risk-free and are known to contain and emit potentially toxic substances. The emerging concerns surrounding vaping calls for a regulatory framework that provides equal protection for all Canadians.

Endorsement of Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Canada

Hamilton Public Health Services' comprehensive tobacco control interventions across prevention, protection, cessation and enforcement include preventing experimentation and escalation of tobacco use among children youth and young adults. However, in Hamilton, sales of vapour product or e-cigarettes to persons under the age of 19 have so far doubled in 2019 in comparison to all of 2018. There also is a marginal increase in tobacco sales to persons less than 19 years old in 2019 in comparison to 2018.

A suite of robust measures is needed to address the rise in vapour product use and to protect our most vulnerable populations from the harms associated with these products. We applaud the Government of Canada's pursuit of an evidence-informed regulatory framework through the numerous public consultations conducted in 2019, through which the City of Hamilton Public Health Services has submitted regulatory recommendations.

The City of Hamilton Board of Health urges the Government of Canada to expedite a comprehensive set of controls for vapour products like those regulating tobacco products and to consider other evidence-informed strategies such as taxation, use prohibition, industry denormalization, and effective public education and behaviour change campaigns to address this emerging public health issue.

On behalf of the City of Hamilton's Board of Health, we endorse the following:

- a) That the Federal Government prohibit all additives and non-tobacco flavours in vaping products and e-liquids;
- b) That the Federal Government require the listing of all ingredients on product labels and packaging on vapour products;
- c) That the Federal Government require health and toxicity warnings on vapour products;
- d) That the Federal Government restrict nicotine concentration in all vaping products;
- e) That the Federal Government require standardized and tamper proof packaging on all vapour products;
- f) That the Federal Government require mandatory testing and reporting for vapour products;
- g) That the Federal Government strengthen the advertising and promotion control regime so that it aligns with tobacco controls; and,

Endorsement of Measures to Address the Rise of Vaping in Canada

- h) That the Federal Government develop a robust and sustainable monitoring and surveillance strategy to ensure compliance with advertising and promotion controls, and to identify emerging products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Eisenberger", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

CC:

Hon. Bob Bratina, MP, Hamilton East – Stoney Creek
Hon. Scott Duvall, MP, Hamilton Mountain
Hon. Matthew Green, MP, Hamilton Centre
Hon. Filomena Tassi, MP, Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Ontario Boards of Health

alPHa's members are
the public health
units in Ontario.

alPHa Sections:

Boards of Health
Section

Council of Ontario
Medical Officers of
Health (COMOH)

**Affiliate
Organizations:**

Association of Ontario
Public Health Business
Administrators

Association of
Public Health
Epidemiologists
in Ontario

Association of
Supervisors of Public
Health Inspectors of
Ontario

Health Promotion
Ontario

Ontario Association of
Public Health Dentistry

Ontario Association of
Public Health Nursing
Leaders

Ontario Dietitians in
Public Health

WE'RE MOVING!

Dear alPHa Member,

We are pleased to inform you that our office will be relocating to the following new address effective **Thursday, December 19, 2019**. Our phone number, extensions and email addresses will remain the same.

NEW ADDRESS:

**Association of Local Public Health Agencies
480 University Avenue, Suite 300
Toronto ON M5G 1V2**

Please update your records with our new address.

We apologize in advance for any inconvenience that you may encounter during our transition period in the week of December 16th. If you have any questions about our move, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

alPHa Staff

Elizabeth Milne

From: Van Loon, James (HC/SC) <james.vanloon@canada.ca>
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2019 2:45 PM
To: pregs (HC/SC)
Subject: Stricter rules on vaping product promotion and finalizes labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products / Règles plus strictes concernant la promotion des produits de vapotage et finalise les exigences en matière d'étiquetage et d'emballage

Health Canada proposes stricter rules on vaping product promotion and finalizes labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products

Evidence shows that youth vaping rates in Canada are increasing at a concerning pace. The Government of Canada has taken a number of steps in recent months to address the rise in youth vaping.

Please see Health Canada's announcement related to the Government of Canada's response to the rise in youth vaping at the following link: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/news/2019/12/health-canada-proposes-to-ban-advertising-of-vaping-products-wherever-they-can-be-seen-or-heard-by-youth.html>

Health Canada is publishing proposed restrictions on vaping product promotion in the *Canada Gazette*, Part I on Saturday, December 21, 2019 for a 30-day comment period.

The proposed *Vaping Products Promotion Regulations* (VPPR) would prohibit all advertising that can be seen or heard by youth, with minor exceptions, and would prohibit the display of vaping products at retail locations, including online, that can be seen by youth. The regulations would also require that a health warning be conveyed in vaping product advertisements that are not prohibited.

Canadians and interested parties are invited to share their views on the proposed regulations. Health Canada welcomes written submissions or input provided online. This consultation will run until January 20, 2020.

Final labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products are being published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II on December 24, 2019. The *Vaping Products Labelling and Packaging Regulations* (VPLPR) require that vaping products that contain vaping substances display important health and safety information. Vaping products containing nicotine must display a standardized nicotine concentration statement and a health warning about the addictiveness of nicotine. In addition, vaping products containing nicotine must be packaged in child-resistant containers and display a toxicity warning and first aid treatment statement. A list of ingredients must be displayed on vaping substances, regardless of nicotine content. Refillable vaping devices and their parts must be child-resistant.

How to view the regulations and supporting documents:

The proposed VPPR and draft document to be incorporated by reference can be accessed through this link: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/19ymmoizwn3hnyj/AACzU205SDOaMK-X0d2caXhGa>

The VPLPR and document incorporated by reference can be accessed through the same link.

**

Santé Canada propose des règles plus strictes concernant la promotion des produits de vapotage et finalise les exigences en matière d'étiquetage et d'emballage des produits de vapotage

Des données récentes montrent que les taux de vapotage chez les jeunes au Canada augmentent à un rythme inquiétant. Le gouvernement du Canada a donc pris un certain nombre de mesures au cours des derniers mois pour contrer l'augmentation du vapotage chez les jeunes.

Pour consulter l'annonce de Santé Canada concernant la réponse du gouvernement du Canada à l'égard de l'augmentation du vapotage chez les jeunes, cliquez sur le lien suivant : <https://www.canada.ca/fr/sante-canada/nouvelles/2019/12/sante-canada-se-propose-dinterdire-la-publicite-sur-les-produits-de-vapotage-partout-ou-elle-pourrait-etre-vue-ou-entendue-par-des-jeunes.html>

Santé Canada publiera les restrictions proposées en matière de promotion liée aux produits de vapotage dans la Partie I de la *Gazette du Canada*, le samedi 21 décembre 2019, pour une période de consultation de 30 jours.

Le projet de *Règlement sur la promotion des produits de vapotage* (RPPV) vise à interdire, sauf quelques exceptions mineures, toute publicité de produits de vapotage qui pourrait être vue ou entendue par les jeunes ainsi que l'affichage à la vue des jeunes des produits de vapotage dans les commerces de détail, incluant dans les commerces en ligne. Le règlement exigerait également que les publicités de produits de vapotage qui ne sont pas interdites comportent une mise en garde sur les dangers pour la santé.

Les Canadiens et les parties intéressées sont invités à communiquer leurs points de vue sur ce projet de règlement. Santé Canada recueille les soumissions écrites ou les commentaires fournis en ligne. La consultation se déroulera jusqu'au 20 janvier 2020.

La publication définitive des exigences relatives à l'étiquetage et à l'emballage des produits de vapotage sera effectuée dans la Partie II de la *Gazette du Canada* le 24 décembre 2019. Le *Règlement sur l'étiquetage et l'emballage des produits de vapotage* (REEPV) exige que des renseignements importants sur la santé et la sécurité soient inscrits sur les produits de vapotage contenant des substances de vapotage. Les produits de vapotage contenant de la nicotine doivent afficher un énoncé normalisé de la concentration de nicotine et une mise en garde relative à la santé à propos du caractère addictif de la nicotine. De plus, les produits de vapotage contenant de la nicotine doivent être emballés dans des contenants protégés-enfants et porter un avertissement de toxicité et un énoncé de premiers soins. Une liste d'ingrédients doit être affichée sur les substances de vapotage, quelle que soit leur teneur en nicotine. Les produits de vapotage réutilisables, y compris les dispositifs et leurs pièces, doivent être équipés de mécanismes protégés-enfants.

Comment accéder au règlement et aux documents connexes :

Le projet de RPPV et le document provisoire à incorporer par renvoi peuvent être consultés à l'adresse suivante : <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/19ymmoizwn3hnyj/AACzU205SDOaMK-X0d2caXhGa>

Il est également possible de consulter, à la même adresse, le REEPV et le document incorporé par renvoi.

James Van Loon
Director General/Directeur Général
Tobacco Control Directorate/Direction de la lutte au tabagisme
Health Canada/Santé Canada

Ministry of Health

Office of the Deputy Premier
and Minister of Health

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
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Telephone: 416 327-4300
Facsimile: 416 326-1571
www.ontario.ca/health

Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du vice-premier ministre
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DEC 20 2019

Dr. Michael Clarke

Dear Dr. Clarke:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the time and effort you have given while serving on the Board of Health for the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

Your current appointment will come to an end on February 29, 2020. Your commitment as a member of the board has been invaluable and the work you have done has left a lasting impact on all Ontarians. I truly appreciate your contribution and I hope you have found your tenure both challenging and rewarding.

Please accept my best wishes. I hope that you will continue to offer your time and talent in serving the people of Ontario.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine Elliott".

Christine Elliott
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

c: Medical Officer of Health

January 2, 2020

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4
Sent via e-mail: christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Elliott,

Re: Request for Weekly Data Reports on Vaping Cases

At its meeting on December 11, 2019, the Board of Health for Peterborough Public Health received for information correspondence from the City of Hamilton (attached) requesting that cases of vaping-related severe pulmonary disease in Hamilton hospitals be shared with Hamilton's Medical Officers of Health.

The Board of Health for Peterborough Public Health also requests that local cases of vaping-related severe pulmonary disease reported by Peterborough Regional Health Centre to the Chief Medical Officer of Health under section 77.7.1 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act be shared with Peterborough's Medical Officer of Health.

Considering the importance of public health surveillance and the need to continue to raise awareness of health impacts related to vaping, information related to incidences of hospitalizations locally is critical in assessing the extent of the ill-effects of vaping on the health of residents of Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations, and the County and City of Peterborough.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Councillor Kathryn Wilson
Chair, Board of Health

Encl.
/ag

cc: Dr. David Williams, Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dr. Peter McLaughlin, President and Chief Executive Officer, Peterborough Regional Health Centre
Local MPPs
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF HAMILTON

October 30, 2019

VIA: Email

Hon. Christine Elliott
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3
christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

RE: Request for Weekly Data Reports on Vaping Cases

Dear Minister Elliott,

At its meeting on October 18, 2019 the City of Hamilton Board of Health discussed the potential health effects associated with the use of electronic cigarettes, in particular, the current outbreak of severe pulmonary disease, and your recent order for hospitals to report such cases to Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

In order to enable Hamilton's Board of Health to better assess the extent of the ill-effects of vaping on the health of those in Hamilton, I am writing on behalf of the Hamilton Board to request that any such reports to Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health by Hamilton hospitals be shared with Hamilton's Medical Officer of Health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Eisenberger", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor

CC:

Hon. Donna Skelly, MPP, Flamborough – Glanbrook
Hon. Andrea Horwath, Leader of the Official Opposition, MPP, Hamilton Centre
Hon. Paul Miller, MPP, Hamilton East – Stoney Creek
Hon. Monique Taylor, MPP, Hamilton Mountain

.../2

Hon. Sandy Shaw, MPP, Hamilton West – Ancaster, Dundas
Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA)
Ontario Boards of Health

January 9, 2020

Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health, Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Sent via email: patty.hajdu@parl.gc.ca

Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier
Minister of Health, Ontario
Hepburn Block 10th Floor 80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1E9
Sent via email: christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Hajdu and Minister Elliot,

The Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit would like to take this opportunity to support the correspondence forwarded by the Board of Health Chair of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit dated September 18th, 2019. This requested stronger provincial legislation to restrict the display and promotion of vaping products and ban flavoured vaping products to address the youth vaping crisis. Accordingly, the concerns identified in the document reflect those of our Board of Health and community partners.

We would like to commend your leadership in making the decision to prohibit the promotion of vaping products in convenience stores and gas stations effective January 1, 2020. This measure is a critical first step towards preventing youth access and initiation. Nevertheless, the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU) remains uncertain that banning the promotion of vaping products in retail settings will be enough to reduce youth uptake and related harms. With increasing numbers of youth seen vaping across PHU communities, and an already higher than provincial average tobacco use rate we remain extremely concerned. Evidence supports that e-cigarette companies are appealing to young people through the promotion of flavours. As such, banning flavoured e-cigarette products would be a great step towards curbing the current youth vaping epidemic.

The Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit supports Private Members Bill 151 which was brought forward in the Ontario Legislature by the Ontario NDP Health Critic France Gélinas on November 27, 2019. The Smoke-Free Ontario Amendment Act (*Vaping is not for Kids*) bill includes measures concerning e-cigarettes, such as banning flavours unless exempted by regulation; banning sales except in adult-only specialty vape stores; and requiring specialty vape stores to be approved by local Board of Health. The bill would prohibit the promotion of vaping products, regulate the availability of flavours, set a maximum amount of nicotine per milliliter of e-fluid, restrict sales to specialty shops, require Ontario Health to prepare an annual report on vaping usage and health effects as well as prioritize research by setting tax money aside. We urge the Ministry of Health to support this bill so that we not only protect our youth but can mutually reach our goal of achieving a smoking rate of less than 5% by 2035.



Years of
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Moosonee, Smooth Rock Falls

The Honourable Patty Hajdu; and
The Honourable Christine Elliott
January 9, 2020

2.

Our concern that current measures will not be enough to adequately address the crisis of youth vaping continue to be supported. Decades of experience with youth smoking demonstrate the need for comprehensive protective measures. As such, the recommendations forwarded on December 19, 2019, by the *Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada* should also be considered in the development of new regulations.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter for the protection of the health of our youth.

Sincerely,



Sue Perras
Chair, Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit

cc: Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Public Health Association
Porcupine Health Unit - Member Municipalities



Ontario

**Executive Council of Ontario
Order in Council**

On the recommendation of the undersigned, the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, by and with the advice and concurrence of the Executive Council of Ontario, orders that:

**Conseil exécutif de l'Ontario
Décret**

Sur la recommandation de la personne soussignée, le lieutenant-gouverneur de l'Ontario, sur l'avis et avec le consentement du Conseil exécutif de l'Ontario, décrète ce qui suit :

PURSUANT TO subsections 49(3) and 51(1) of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, **Robert Parker** of London be appointed as a part-time member of the Board of Health for the Middlesex-London Health Unit to serve at the pleasure of the Lieutenant Governor in Council effective the date this Order in Council is made, to and including December 31, 2020.

EN VERTU DES paragraphes 49 (3) et 51 (1) de la *Loi sur la protection et la promotion de la santé*, **Robert Parker** de London est nommé au poste de membre à temps partiel du conseil de santé de la circonscription sanitaire de Middlesex-London pour exercer son mandat à titre amovible à la discrétion du lieutenant-gouverneur en conseil, à compter du jour de la prise du présent décret jusqu'au 31 décembre 2020 inclusivement.

Christine Elliott
Recommended: Minister of Health
Recommandé par : La ministre de la Santé

CAA
Concurred: Chair of Cabinet
Appuyé par : Le président | la présidente du Conseil des ministres

Approved and Ordered:
Approuvé et décrété le : JAN 09 2020

Edwards
Lieutenant Governor
La lieutenante-gouverneure