

December 18, 2014

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

Dear Dr. Hoskins:

On December 18, 2014, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Board of Health passed the following resolution regarding community water fluoridation:

WHEREAS global health experts and evidence support community water fluoridation to prevent tooth decay; and

WHEREAS providing fluoride via community water offers the positive benefits equally for everyone in the community; and

WHEREAS individuals in the community of lower socio-economic status suffer a more significant burden of poor health; and

WHEREAS Windsor-Essex has a higher than average number of individuals living in low income compared to the province; and

WHEREAS the relationship between poor oral health and risks associated with childhood development are known; and

WHEREAS the relationship between poor oral health and poor physical and mental health is clear;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Windsor Essex County Health Unit recommends that the Province of Ontario amend the regulations of the Safe Drinking Water Act to require community water fluoridation for all municipal water systems (when source-water levels are below the Health Canada-recommended level of 0.7 mg/L) to prevent dental caries.

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Thank you for your attention to this important public health issue.

Yours very truly,



Gary McNamara
Chair, Board of Health



Dr. Gary M. Kirk
Associate Medical Officer of Health and CEO

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cc: Board Members, Windsor-Essex Board of Health

Local MPPs

Mary Brennan, Director, Council Services (distribution to County Councillors)

Becky Murray, City Council Services (distribution to City Councillors)

Ms. Monika Turner, Director of Policy, AMO

Dr. David Mowat, Interim Chief Medical Officer of Health

The Honourable Tracy MacCharles, Minister of Children and Youth Services

Dr. Jerry Smith, President, Ontario Dental Association

Dr. Charles Frank and Dr. Lesli Hapak, Board Members, Ontario Dental Association

Dr. Matt Duronio, President, Essex County Dental Society

Dr. Peter Cooney, Canadian Oral Health Advisor, Public Health Agency of Canada

Dr. Haider Hasnan, President, Essex County Medical Society

Dr. Peter Donnelly, President and CEO, Public Health Ontario

Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry

Ms. Sue Makin, President, The Ontario Public Health Association

Ms. Amy MacDonald, Co-Chair, Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health

Mr. Gordon Fleming, Manager of Public Health Issues, aPHa

Mr. Adam Vasey, Director, Pathway to Potential

Ontario Boards of Health