

4. ONTARIO'S HEALTH SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION: RESPONSE TO THE  
MINISTER'S EXPERT PANEL REPORT

ACS2017-OPH-BOH-0007

**That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit:**

- 1. Endorse this report in response to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care's Expert Panel on Public Health Report entitled "Public Health within an Integrated Health System";**
- 2. Approve that the Chair of the Board of Health submit this report to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care as part of the Ministry's consultation, and write a letter to the Minister outlining the key considerations in the report; and**
- 3. Approve that the Chair of the Board of Health, subject to the approval of Recommendation 1, forward the letter to all Ontario Boards of Health, Ottawa City Council, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), and local Members of Provincial Parliament.**

Ms. Inge Roosendaal, Program Development Officer, Community & Partner Engagement, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation, which served to provide the Board with some context on this report. Ms. Roosendaal was accompanied by Dr. Vera Etches, Director, Knowledge Exchange, Planning & Quality & Deputy Medical Officer of Health. Board members asked questions on the presentation, a copy of which is held on file with the Board of Health Secretary. This discussion lasted approximately 38 minutes.

In dealing with this item, the Board considered the following motion:

**Motion 18/02**

Moved by Chair Qadri

**WHEREAS** the Medical Officer of Health's report entitled "*Ontario's Health System Transformation: Response to the Minister's Expert Panel Report*" identifies a number of potential impacts that could have implications for the City of Ottawa, and these impacts have also been noted by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA), and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH);

**AND WHEREAS** in respect of the issue of structure and representation, it is expected that the Expert Panel's proposed amalgamation of health units may result in fewer City of Ottawa representatives at the governance level, with a potential weakening of municipal voice in local public health matters;

**AND WHEREAS** in respect of the public health funding model, the impact of the Expert Panel's recommendations is uncertain but may result in decreased municipal contributions due to alignment with regional boundaries rather than municipal boundaries;

**AND WHEREAS** the City of Ottawa currently provides services to support the Board of Health's operations, the proposed governance model may result in disruption of those long-standing services which may require re-negotiation in areas involving human resources and labour relations, with potential additional expense; and

**AND WHEREAS** in respect of municipal-public health collaboration, it is expected that the proposed alignment with the Local Health Integration Network boundaries, which are determined by hospital catchment areas, could negatively impact the direct relationships with local municipalities and their departments, school boards, community organizations and other local entities;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Health forward the

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**report to the Ottawa City Council with a request that:**

- a) Council approve the report entitled “Ontario’s Health System Transformation: Response to the Minister’s Expert Panel Report”; and**
- b) Subject to Council’s approval of the report, direct the City Clerk and Solicitor to send confirmation of Council’s approval to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care.**

CARRIED

**Motion 18/03**

Moved by Member Taylor

**That recommendation 1 be amended by replacing the word “Endorse” with the word “Approve”.**

CARRIED

The report recommendations were then put to the Board and approved, as amended by Motions 18/02 and 18/03.

CARRIED, as amended