SUBJECT: Public Health Report to the Community - BOH07014 (City Wide)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the “Public Health Services Annual Report to the Community” be distributed to stakeholders as outlined in this Report BOH07014.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The “Public Health Services Annual Report to the Community” demonstrates our fiscal accountability to our stakeholders and the positive impact of our programs and services on the people of Hamilton. It fulfils a public health accreditation requirement to communicate about public health programs and services to the community at large.

“The Public Health Services Annual Report to the Community” is attached in Appendix A.

The Report will be posted on the City of Hamilton, Public Health Services website and distributed to community partners and stakeholders including: MPPs, MPs, Ministry representatives, boards of education, Non-Governmental Organizations, community partners, business representatives and associations, and City departments.

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Health is committed to dissemination about the health of the community and the programs and activities of the Board that are directed toward health promotion, health protection and disease prevention. The preparation and dissemination of the
“Public Health Services Annual Report to the Community” complies with Board of Health policy on communication between the Medical Officer of Health and the Board of Health, as outlined in Report PH06038. It also fulfills a public health services accreditation requirement of the Ontario Council of Community Health Accreditation that the governing body disseminates an annual report on public health programs.

The objectives of the attached “Public Health Report to the Community”, Appendix A are to:

- comply with Board of Health policy on communication between the Medical Officer of Health and the Board of Health, as outlined in Report PH06038
- meet the accreditation standards of the Ontario Council of Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA)
- demonstrate our fiscal accountability and impact of our programs and services on the community
- highlight Board of Health goals for 2007
- promote the role of public health professionals and the services that they provide to community agencies and residents of Hamilton

The report attempts to engage our partners and stakeholders and responds to the question: How are we making a difference in our community? The vignettes illustrate real people in real situations. They also illustrate the range of our partnerships with community agencies. The report demonstrates how Public Health Services has supported, connected and empowered these individuals and agencies. The statistics demonstrate the diverse range and scope of the impact many of the services we provide.

The target audiences to receive this report are our community partners and stakeholders including: MPPs, MPs, Ministry representatives, boards of education, Non-Governmental Organizations, community partners, business representatives and associations, and City departments.

The report will also be posted on the City of Hamilton, Public Health Services website.

**ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:**

The publication of an annual report of public health programs is a requirement of the Ontario Council of Community Health Accreditation.

A majority of Ontario public health units use similar means in which to communicate with their communities on an annual basis.

We have received feedback from our community partners that they welcome ongoing information about public health programs and services. This is a method to provide that ongoing communication.

**ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION:**
FINANCIAL/STAFFING/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The report was developed and written by staff within Public Health Services and stories were written by inspired community members. The production and distribution cost of this report is $5,000.00.

POLICIES AFFECTING PROPOSAL:

Board of Health policy on communication between the Medical Officer of Health and the Board of Health, as outlined in Report PH06038.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION:

Legal Services was consulted on the development of client consent forms for permission to release personal health information and images in the stories. Consent forms were signed by all those identified in the annual report.

CITY STRATEGIC COMMITMENT:

Community Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No

Environmental Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No

Economic Well-Being is enhanced. ☑ Yes ☐ No

Does the option you are recommending create value across all three bottom lines? ☐ Yes ☑ No

Do the options you are recommending make Hamilton a City of choice for high performance public servants? ☑ Yes ☐ No

This report demonstrates the commitment of Hamilton Public Health Services staff to making the city of Hamilton a healthy community in which to live, work and play.