THE BOARD OF HEALTH PRESENTS REPORT 08-008 AND RESPECTFULLY RECOMMENDS:

1. **Proposed Restructuring of Hamilton Health Sciences (Item 6.1)**

That the City of Hamilton forward a letter to the Hamilton LHIN requesting that it conduct public consultation on the full Hamilton Health Sciences Access to Best Care plan including meetings situated in, but not limited to Dundas, Westdale, West Flamborough, and the West Mountain and that copies of the letter be forwarded to the area MPP’s.
FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL:

(a) **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 1)**

The Clerk advised of the following changes to the agenda:

(i) Added delegation request (Item 4.1) from Doctor Ken Ockenden, Chair of the Access to Best Care Committee wishing to address the Board this evening respecting Item 6.1 concerning the proposed changes at Hamilton Health Sciences and he requests that the time limit be increased to 10 minutes. Copies have been distributed.

(ii) Added delegation request (Item 4.2) from Doctor Robert James, who wishes to address the Board this evening concerning the withdrawal of adult inpatient services, as well as the reduction of acute out-patient, emergency services. Copies have been distributed.

The agenda was approved as amended.

(b) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 2)**

None declared. Councillor Ferguson noted that although he is a board member of Hamilton Health Sciences, he does not have any pecuniary interest.

(c) **MINUTES (Item 3)**

None

(d) **DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 4)**

(i) The Board noted that it has no jurisdiction over Hamilton Health Sciences and that the purpose of this meeting is to obtain information and to allow the Councillors to ask questions, and therefore approved, but limited the delegations to the following:

(aa) Doctor Ken Ockenden, Chair of the Access to Best Care Committee wishing to address the Board today respecting Item 6.1 concerning the proposed changes at Hamilton Health Sciences. (Added Item 4.1)

(bb) Doctor Robert James, who wishes to address the Board today concerning the withdrawal of adult inpatient services, as well as the reduction of acute out-patient, emergency services.
services. (Added Item 4.2)

The motion to approve the delegations CARRIED on the following votes:

Total: 11
Nays: Clark
Total: 1
Absent: Bratina, Merulla, Morelli, and Whitehead
Total: 4

(ii) The rules of procedure were waived to allow Doctors Ockenden and James to speak for ten minutes.

(e) PUBLIC HEARINGS/DELEGATIONS (Item 6)

(i) Mr. Murray Martin President and CEO of Hamilton Health Sciences, concerning the proposed restructuring of HHS and Doctor Kevin Smith President and Chief Executive Officer of St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton (SJHH) – (Invited by the Board at its meeting held May 27, 2008.)

Jeff Vallentin, Assistant Vice-President of Corporate and Medical Affairs, Hamilton Health Sciences addressed the Board and introduced the following panel of speakers who made a PowerPoint presentation:

(aa) Barbara Sullivan, Chair, Board of Directors, orate and Medical Affairs of Hamilton Health Sciences

(bb) Murray Martin, President and Chief Executive Officer, Hamilton Health Sciences

(cc) Dr. Kevin Smith, President and Chief Executive Officer, St. Joseph’s Healthcare Hamilton

(dd) Dr. Bill Evans, President of the Juravinski Cancer Centre & Regional Vice President of Cancer Care Ontario

(ee) Dr. Wes Stephen, Interim Chief of Surgery

(ff) Dr. Stuart Connolly, Director, Division of Cardiology

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Copies of the panel’s PowerPoint presentation and a booklet entitled Access to the Best Care were distributed at the meeting. Following the presentations, Barbara Sullivan played a short video featuring various area physicians who explained why they support the restructuring.

The Chair thanked the presenters and invited the following delegations to the podium:

Doctor Ken Ockenden, Chair of the Access to Best Care Committee

Doctor Ockenden thanked the Board for approving his request and referred to a hand-out entitled Access to Best Care Interim Report which was distributed at the meeting. He provided an overview of the document. He indicated that he is a retired emergency room physician and because of his background was asked to Chair the Access to the Best Care Committee (ABC Committee) which was organized by the Ainslie Wood/Westdale Community Association of Resident Homeowners Inc. He outlined the areas of concern that the Committee believes should be addressed before proceeding with the restructuring.

Doctor Robert James

Doctor James introduced himself and provided information about his medical career. He explained his concerns with the proposal and with the lack of consultation from the public and particularly from the General Practitioners.

A lengthy question and answer period followed with the Board
members asking questions of the panel.

At 9:45 p.m. the Chair relinquished the Chair to Acting Deputy Mayor Jackson.

The Board received, with thanks, the presentation made by the members of Hamilton Health Sciences.

The Board approved the motion as outlined in Item 1 of this Report and the motion CARRIED on the following votes:

Yea: Clark, Duvall, Jackson, McHattie, Pasuta, Pearson, Powers and Whitehead
Total: 8
Nays: Ferguson and Mitchell
Total: 2
Absent: Eisenberger, Bratina, Collins, McCarthy, Merulla, and Morelli
Total: 6

(f) Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger, Chair
Board of Health

Ida Bedioui
Legislative Assistant
Board of Health
September 8, 2008