RESOLUTION

Date: May 7th, 2008

Resolution #: 04-2008 - EXPANSION OF THE HPV IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

MOVED BY: Burl Regan
SECONDED BY: Syd Fenton

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has publicly funded HPV vaccine for Grade 8 females in the school setting during the Grade 8 year as of September 2007; and

WHEREAS the prevalence of the Human Papillomavirus has been shown to be high in Canadian women and has been shown to be the cause of cervical cancer; and

WHEREAS cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in Canadian women between the ages of 20-44; and

WHEREAS Health Canada has approved the use of HPV vaccine, for 9-26 year old females, to reduce cervical cancer in women in Ontario; and

WHEREAS Grade 8 females are socially and developmentally vulnerable with respect to this health care decision, and may not be able to take advantage of this offer at the time it is provided in Grade 8 because of the influence of peers, family, and/or disrupted family circumstances; and

WHEREAS female youth who decline or miss immunization through the program in Grade 8 for reasons other than a mature choice, miss out on public funding if they subsequently choose immunization; and

WHEREAS the consequences of either not initiating or not completing the vaccine regime due to situations and circumstances, can have significant health implications, especially for high-risk female youth; and

WHEREAS the base price of HPV vaccine is approximately $135.00 per dose, excluding pharmacy fees, which is cost prohibitive to high-risk female youth; and

WHEREAS the allocated funds for this program projected a vaccine uptake of 85% for Grade 8 females, the actual provincial uptake has been 53% for the first dose, thereby leaving funds and/or vaccine available; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health of the Timiskaming Health Unit urges the Government of Ontario to utilize unused funds to provide immunization for the high-risk populations identified above; and

FURTHER THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to Minister of Finance, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, alPHa, local Members of Provincial and Federal Parliament, all Ontario Boards of Health, and local organizations that work in child protection, for support.

☐ Carried
☐ Defeated
☐ Deferred

Chair - Board of Health