

October 18, 2017

The Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister – Minister's Office
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor St
Toronto, Ontario
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Dear Minister Hoskins:

At the October 11, 2017 meeting of the Board of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, a motion was passed to endorse a resolution shared by the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Board of Health requesting the implementation of a publicly funded human papillomavirus immunization catch up program for boys currently in grades 9 to 12 similar to the catch up program implemented for girls in 2012.

As this resolution clearly articulates, boys who are currently in high school cannot avail themselves of publicly funded vaccines unless they identify as MSM or are fortunate enough to have parents with a benefit plan that will cover HPV vaccinations. Providing publicly funded HPV vaccines to males in high schools is equitable and also reflective of National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) recommendations.

We therefore join the Public Health Board of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and the Regional Municipality of Durham and endorse the request for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to implement a catch up HPV program for boys.

The Board of Health commends the MOHLTC for its commitment to effective and expanding immunization programs and their recognition for the role of Public Health in delivering all of these programs across the province.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Scott Warnock
Chair, Board of Health

BW:CG:cn

c. Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

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Ann Hoggarth, MPP
Norm Miller, MPP
Patrick Brown, MPP
Jim Wilson, MPP
Julia Munro, MPP
North Simcoe Muskoka Local Health Integrated Network
Central Local Health Integrated Network
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