917 Lesperance Rd. Tecumseh, Ontario Canada, N8W 1W9

January 2019

Dear Mayor McNamara and Council,

Re: Re-introduction of Community Water Fluoridation in Windsor, Tecumseh

I urge and hope that Council looks to the science on water fluoridation and supports the re-introduction of fluoridated water to the Windsor-Essex County community.

Tooth decay is the most common chronic childhood disease. It saddens me to see such young children show up as my clients in severe pain or any level of discomfort from something that has been proven to be preventable. The argument that people can choose to put it in their water by using different means does not address the fact that often the people that need it most cannot access other means. Nonetheless, how can we argue that people have a choice to use fluoride supplements when we are not taking into account the category of parents who may have little to no information regarding this topic?

Research has continuously resulted with scientific evidence supporting the safety of community water fluoridation at optimally controlled levels. The health unit's own studies and statistics of school children show better dental health in Windsor-Essex County five years ago compared to today. Removing the fluoride from the community water has proven to have caused a negative effect on the oral health of the children in our community. That is not to mention the negative effects this may have also contributed to in the middle aged and senior populations.

I truly believe and strongly support the fact that fluoridation is an effective and inexpensive way to improve the oral health of everyone in our community, regardless of age, sex or income/education level. I hope Council really realizes how much effect the final vote will have on everyone in our community. We as responsible community members should avoid allowing a negative stigma from negatively effecting our community with intentions of protecting it. I would like to sincerely thank Council for taking the time to read my input. I hope my letter shows strong support for efforts put by the City of Windsor to improve our community's oral health and overall health.

Sincerely,
Dr. Mary Louise Drake, RN
Building Blocks for Better Babies
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