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

January 2019

Dear Mayor McNamara and Council,

Dental health is, and continues to be, an important part of good overall health. Despite this fact, many residents in Windsor and Essex County lack the support they need to maintain good dental health and face barriers to getting dental services. More needs to be done.

In 2018, the Windsor Essex County Health Unit disseminated two reports identifying the oral health needs for children and adults; these reports identified that both children and adults have significant oral health needs. Based on the results of the *Dental Health of Adults and Seniors in Windsor-Essex* survey and those found in the Oral Health Report (2018 update), the following recommendations are provided:

1. **Partnerships.**
   - Form a local dental health community coalition and collaborate with the Erie-St. Clair Oral Health Coalition, to expand dental health education and outreach programs.
2. **Advocacy.**
   - Advocate for increased funding for dental health services and expansion of publicly-funded dental programs for adults and seniors.
   - Advocate for workplaces to provide a living wage and/or some type of dental insurance coverage to their employees.
3. **Community water fluoridation.**
   - Promote and support policies for residents of Windsor-Essex County to have access to community water fluoridation (CWF) and advocate for provincial coordination of CWF.
4. **Comprehensive, community-based approach to healthy living programs and services.**

As a representative of a community agency, I encourage you to support the recommendations of the WECHU as noted above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kim Casier

Kim Casier, Registered Dental Hygienist