

November 2, 2016

To: Public Works and Infrastructure Committee

From: Board of Health

**Subject: Preventing Injuries from Wintertime Slips and Falls in Toronto
(Item HL15.4)**

On October 31, 2016, the Toronto Board of Health adopted this item as amended and among other things forwards the report (October 14, 2016) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee for information.

The Board of Health also:

1. Requested the Acting Medical Officer of Health to work with the General Manager, Transportation Services to explore opportunities to improve sidewalk safety during the winter months, including:
 - a. changing the snowfall threshold for sidewalk clearing to 2 cm in all areas where mechanical sidewalk clearing is available;
 - b. collaborating with the Director of Insurance and Risk Management to improve the data quality of claims against the City to track claims over time for the purposes of assessing whether increases in snow removal to high volume pedestrian areas result in reduced claims;
 - c. producing and keeping up to date an online, publicly available map that clearly defines areas that receive sidewalk snow and ice clearing services in the City of Toronto;
 - d. increasing awareness of existing programs to help older adults and those with disabilities who are unable to clear their own sidewalks, in areas where sidewalks are not cleared by the City of Toronto;
 - e. increasing resident awareness of their responsibilities related to clearing snow from sidewalks adjacent to their properties;
 - f. clearing all sidewalks in all parts of the city;
 - g. strengthening "clear your sidewalks" and "good footwear" campaigns.

2. Forwarded the report (October 14, 2016) from the Acting Medical Officer of Health to the the iDAPT Centre for Rehabilitation Research, Walk Toronto, Sick Kids Hospital, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), Parachute, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), the Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP), the Toronto District School Board (TDSB), the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB), the French school boards, CARP (formerly the Canadian Association of Retired Persons), Women's College Hospital, the 5 Toronto LHINs, the Seniors Accountability Table, and the Toronto Seniors' Forum.

Background Information

(October 14, 2016) Report from the Acting Medical Officer of Health on Preventing Injuries from Wintertime Slips and Falls in Toronto
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/bgrd/backgroundfile-97431.pdf>)

Communications

(October 31, 2016) Letter from Dylan Reid, Walk Toronto (HL.New.HL15.4.1)
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2016/hl/comm/communicationfile-63913.pdf>)

Sincerely,

Secretary,
Board of Health
Nancy Martins/ac