



CITY COUNCIL REFERRAL OF MEMBER MOTION

Opposing the Decision to Close the Urgent Care Centre at the Branson Ambulatory Care Centre in North York

Date: March 30, 2017

To: Community Development and Recreation Committee

From: City Council

Wards: Ward 10

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on March 28 and 29, 2017, referred Motion MM27.28 to the Community Development and Recreation Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Paula Fletcher, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to:

a. send a letter to the Minister of Health and Long Term Care and the Chief Executive Officer of the North York General Hospital that conveys City Council's objection to the closure of the Urgent Care Centre in June 2017 and urges the reconsideration of this decision; and

b. circulate to all City divisions a request for expressions of interest to build capacity at the site (555 Finch Avenue West) including but not restricted to Toronto Public Health, Employment and Social Services, Shelter Support and Housing Administration and Parks, Forestry and Recreation, among others.

SUMMARY

It was recently announced that the Urgent Care Centre at the Branson Ambulatory Care Centre, 555 Finch Avenue West, will be closing in June 2017. North York General has also determined that it will not be renewing its lease at the Branson Ambulatory Care Centre in 2019.

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The Branson Ambulatory Care Centre is one of North York General Hospital's three sites. In addition to the Urgent Care Centre, Branson also provides vital outpatient services for prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment planning, mental health, medical imaging, cataract surgery and diabetes education programs. In 2015-16, the outpatient volume at the Branson Site was 68,693 with 21,858 visits to the Urgent Care Centre.

This facility is an incredibly valuable resource for the local community that enables residents to receive care for urgent illnesses and injuries that are not life threatening. It would be of great benefit to the community for the Urgent Care Centre to remain open under its current mandate or managed by another health care institution. Alternatively, the City should explore capacity building at the City through our various divisions.

Communications (City Council)

March 29, 2017) Letter from Dr. Tim Rutledge, President and Chief Executive Officer, North York General (MM.New.MM27.28.1)

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2017/mm/comm/communicationfile-68103.pdf>)

(March 28, 2017) Petition from Councillor James Pasternak, Ward 10, York Centre, regarding the closing of the Branson Ambulatory Care Centre, containing the names of approximately 435 persons, filed during the Routine Matters portion of the meeting