

From: [Joan Anderson](#)
To: [Board of Health](#)
Cc: [Murray Jose-Boerbridge](#); [Keith Hambly \(khambly@fifehouse.org\)](mailto:khambly@fifehouse.org)
Subject: THN comments for 2017.HL21.12 on September 25, 2017 Board of Health
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[HL21.12-THN submission to BoH 2017-09-25.pdf](#)
Importance: High

To the City Clerk:

Please add our comments to the agenda for the September 25, 2017 Board of Health meeting on item **2017.HL21.12, Urgent Additional Measures to Address the Overdose Crisis in Toronto**

We understand that our comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that our names will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and our names may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments: [Please see attached](#)

Thank you for your assistance,

On behalf of Keith Hambly (Fife House) and Murray Jose-Boerbridge (Toronto People With AIDS Foundation), Co-Chairs, Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN)

Joan

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To Toronto Board of Health: Joe Mihevc (Chair), Sarah Doucette (Vice-chair), Stacey Berry, Ashna Bowry, Joe Cressy, Paula Fletcher, Chris Glover, Angela Jonsson, Mike Layton, Elisa Levi, Paul Nagpal, Neethan Shan, Peter Wong

HL21.12: Urgent Additional Measures to Address the Overdose Crisis in Toronto

The Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN) facilitates HIV/AIDS planning, collaboration, engagement and innovation to improve access to programs and services for people from diverse communities living with and most affected by HIV/AIDS.

THN's Member organizations deliver a variety of direct services to individuals and communities most affected by HIV. The opioid crisis impacts throughout the HIV service sector. Organizations with programs focused on working with substance users and delivering harm reduction services, are working in the midst of the opioid crisis. Other service organizations, including those providing counselling, food, housing and income services, serve substance users and are also seeing the devastating effects of the crisis.

The Toronto HIV/AIDS Network (THN) supports the motions before the Board of Health: Urgent Additional Measures to Address the Overdose Crisis in Toronto and urges action on the motions without delay.

THN has supported the City's actions to deliver supervised injection services from the start and welcome Toronto Public Health's Interim site now operating at The Works. **Today we also declare our strong support for mobile ("pop-up") supervised sites that can go directly to more neighbourhoods where the needs are urgent. This model is an important piece to include in a comprehensive strategy.**

The current expanded naloxone distribution program and training of individuals and service providers is essential. **We highlight the motion before the Board for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to "expand the distribution of naloxone to community service providers..." which is a huge gap that must be filled.** Service providers work directly with substance users and need all the tools required to save lives.

Thank you for your efforts to make a real impact on this crisis and to save lives of people in Toronto now and in the future.

Sincerely,

Keith Hambly (Fife House) and Murray Jose-Boerbridge (Toronto People With AIDS Foundation), THN Co-chairs

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