

From: [Rob Acheson](#)
To: [Board of Health](#)
Subject: My comments for 2018.HL24.8 on January 22, 2018 Board of Health
Date: Saturday, January 20, 2018 5:24:38 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the January 22, 2018 Board of Health meeting on item 2018.HL24.8, Re-affirming City of Toronto as a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name 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 my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

Since March 2013, three Conferences on the Humanitarian Impact of Nuclear Weapons have been hosted in Oslo, Norway, Nayarit, Mexico and Vienna, Austria. At these conferences, scientists presented new findings on the impact of nuclear weapons on humans, cities, the environment and global climate. Humanitarian organisations, including the International Red Cross, explained that in the event of a nuclear detonation, no organisation in the world would be able to provide adequate help, nor was it likely that an adequate capacity could be built.

The nuclear weapons of today are 1000 times more powerful than those used on Hiroshima and Nagasaki and their use would cause absolute devastation. Since there is no response to a nuclear detonation our only protection is to see that these weapons are eliminated and never used. Our federal government is refusing to ratify the UN Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons so it falls to our cities and communities to bring attention to this issue. The re-affirmation of the City of Toronto as a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone is significant in raising public awareness taking a stand on behalf of its citizens. Thank you for your leadership.

**Rob Acheson
Science for Peace
Nuclear Weapons Working Group**