

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM10.12	ACTION			Ward: All
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Protecting Local Health Care Services from Provincial Downloading and Funding Cuts - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Joe Cressy, recommends that:

1. City Council call on the Province of Ontario to halt the closures of, mergers of, and cuts to our local health care services, including Public Health Units, land ambulance services, hospitals and long-term care homes.

Summary

Health care is consistently ranked as the highest Canadian public policy priority. Investments in health care have improved the overall welfare of society in countless ways by preventing, curing and treating disease and injuries. Municipalities like Toronto, and residents across Ontario, benefit from health investments when those resources are delivered locally.

The amalgamation and downsizing of hospitals in Ontario and across other Canadian jurisdictions has proven to be an expensive undertaking that has redirected money away from frontline care. Now there is mounting concern about the proposed closure of 25 local Public Health Units, more than half of the local ambulance dispatch centres, and 49 of Ontario's 59 local ambulance services. Simultaneously, long-term care homes are facing real dollar cuts and the cancellation of two dedicated funds. Altogether, these cuts represent a challenge in effectively delivering services to those in need.

The proposed cuts, closures, and mergers of local health care services should be halted to ensure that the highest quality of care can be maintained for Toronto and residents across Ontario. Cities and towns across Ontario are adopting similar motions to protect local health care services from shortsighted provincial downloading and funding cuts.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM10.12

