

January 22, 2012

COUNCIL SERVICES

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Dear Council,

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I am writing this letter to express my personal opinion and experience on fluoridation in city drinking water. I am a dentist in the township of Leamington which is not a fluoridated community. I have moved to Leamington to practice for three years now and I have seen more than enough cases of rampant decay in children and heavy recurrent decay in adults and root decays in seniors that make me wish that fluoridation was a part of every city's tap water. There are enough studies to support the addition of fluoride to the city's tap water. The potential savings to the government, patients, insurance company would be enormous.

I am very grateful to dentists like Dr. Frank who has taken his valuable time to travel to many cities to voice our support for water fluoridation. It is our job everyday to see that our patients get the best of care but the time in between that ultimately determines the status of our patient's oral hygiene. We can give them the best information and education on how to take care of their teeth but as we all know everyone is busy and sometimes affording proper dental products and seeing dentists regularly can be a challenge. However, if fluoride was available in tap water then it will always be available to help the patient and the dentist combat the demineralization of teeth from the oral bacteria. I do not need to list all the studies that have been done over the years to prove that fluoride in drinking water is the most efficient and effective way to reduce dental decay for patients of all ages but if such studies were needed to help keep the fluoride in the Tecumseh area then I will be happy to provide the council with numerous studies that support fluoridation.

I urge the council to give it serious consideration to continue to fluoridate the city of Tecumseh water source. The benefits have been proven over and over in many communities all over the world. The result of not having fluoridation will take many years to surface but as the township of Leamington has seen it is not a bright future without fluoridation. I realize that poor oral hygiene is a multifaceted problem but when those families without access to good dental care, proper dental education and proper dental products to help them combat decay then they will need all the help they can get. Reaching out to these types of family is a very difficult task, but fluoridation of the drinking water is a very cheap and efficient way to get to all families of all different walks of life.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to express my opinion on water fluoridation. And I hope that council will vote to keep the water fluoridated in the township of Tecumseh and help other non fluoridated communities see the importance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dr. Huy Nguyen