21 January 2016

The Hon. Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building - Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Re: Legislation to Enforce Infection Prevention and Control Practices within Invasive Personal Service Settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act

Dear Premier Wynne

Ontario has no legislation regulating infection prevention and control practices to minimize the risk of blood borne disease transmission from practices/procedures performed at invasive Personal Service Settings (PSS). The PSS Protocol under Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) govern the activities of Public Health Units regarding PSS infection control such as causing one inspection per year for invasive services which is the same frequency for non-invasive PSS such as a hair salon.

Public Health Inspectors (PHIs), in accordance with the OPHS and best practices, inspect invasive PSS without provincial legislation that outlines legal requirements for infection control needs and operator responsibilities. Infection prevention and control practices are a major component of assessing invasive PSS to minimize the transmission risks of blood-borne disease.

Invasive PSS such as tattoo/body modification establishments or other invasive PSS require extra attention and time for PHIs to mitigate risk to the public by ensuring operators have adequate infection prevention and control practices in place. The Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit views the importance of public health regulations to minimize the risk of blood-borne disease transmission from invasive personal service settings.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Board of Health therefore urges the Government of Ontario to enact legislation for infection prevention and control requirements for invasive PSS under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with a suitable enforcement program such as short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act.

Sincerely

BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

Mark Lovshin
Board of Health Chair
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The Hon. Kathleen Wynne

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Cc:

The Honourable Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Ms. Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Mr. Lou Rinaldi, MPP, Northumberland-Quinte West
Mr. Patrick Brown, MPP, Simcoe North – Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario
Ms. Andrea Horwath, MPP, Hamilton Centre – Leader of the New Democratic Party of Ontario
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Board of Health Chairs
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH RESOLUTION

TITLE: Enactment of Legislation to enforce infection prevention and control practices within invasive Personal Service Settings (PSS) under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

SPONSOR: Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit

WHEREAS Ontario has no legislation governing infection prevention and control practices to minimize the risk of blood borne disease transmission from practices/procedures performed at invasive Personal Service Settings (PSS); and

WHEREAS The Personal Service Setting Protocol under the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) governs the activities of public health units regarding PSS infection control; and

WHEREAS The OPHS mandate one inspection per year for invasive personal service settings, which is the same frequency for non-invasive PSS such as a hair salon; and

WHEREAS Public Health inspectors (PHIs), in accordance with the OPHS and best practices, inspect invasive PSS without provincial legislation that outlines legal requirements for infection control needs and operator responsibilities; and

WHEREAS Infection prevention and control practices are a major component of assessing invasive PSS to minimize the transmission risks of blood-borne disease; and

WHEREAS Invasive PSS such as tattoo/body modification establishments or other invasive PSS require extra attention and time for PHIs to mitigate risk to the public by ensuring operators have adequate infection prevention and control practices in place.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Board of Health strongly recommends and urgently requests the Government of Ontario to enact legislation implementing infection prevention and control requirements for invasive personal service settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with a suitable enforcement program such as short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act to allow for the enforcement of non-compliance with the legislation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

AND FURTHER that the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Board of Health strongly recommends and urgently requests that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies advocate to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, to enact legislation implementing infection prevention and control requirements for invasive personal service settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with a suitable enforcement program such as short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act to allow for the enforcement of non-compliance with the legislation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge Health Unit

21 January 2016

Background – Resolution for Legislation to Enforce Infection Prevention and Control Practices within Invasive Personal Service Settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act

Public Health Inspectors report an increase in the number of tattoo shops opening for business since the spring. Two shops in Bobcaygeon, one in Fenelon Falls and one in Minden have opened within a few months of each other.

Public health inspectors in accordance with best practice inspect these shops without provincial legislation outlining legal requirements for infection control needs and operator responsibility.

Infection control practices are major components of assessing a tattoo shops to reduce transmission risks of blood-borne disease. Invasive personal services setting such as tattoo shops require extra attention and time for Public Health Inspectors to mitigate risk to the public by ensuring operators have adequate infection control practices in place.

Ontario has no legislation governing infection control practices within invasive Personal Service Settings. The Ontario Public Health Standards mandate one inspection per year in invasive Personal Service Settings, which is similar to that for a hair salon.

Recommendations

1. That the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit urges the Government of Ontario to move forward with the development and implementation of Legislation for infection prevention and control requirements for invasive personal service settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with a suitable enforcement program such as short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act to allow for the enforcement of non-compliance with the legislation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act; and

2. That the Board of Health of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit advises the Premier of Ontario of this recommendation, and copies the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Leaders of the Opposition Parties, and the MPPs of Northumberland County, City of Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton County; and

3. That the Board of Health of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit recommends to the delegates of the 2016 Association of Local Public Health Agencies that its resolution regarding the enactment of legislation implementing infection prevention and control requirements for invasive personal service settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with a suitable enforcement program such as short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act to allow for the enforcement of non-compliance with the legislation under the Health Protection and Promotion Act be endorsed.