Dear Ms. Stewart:

RE: Preventing Road Traffic Deaths and Injuries

Every day in Canada, an average of seven people are killed on roads and highways. The people who are killed are from different groups of travellers: pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists themselves. In addition, dozens of people are injured, some with long-term consequences at significant cost to the health care system and to society. Finally, there are the families who are affected, either by the loss of a loved one or breadwinner, or who are called upon to be long-term caregivers for the members of their families.

Each and every one of these deaths and injuries is preventable, and public health has a role in reducing these deaths and injuries, and in reducing the pain, suffering and grief that is associated with them. In fact, it is an integral part of any response by public health to the Ontario Public Health Standard of Injury Prevention, and is mentioned explicitly in the revised Ontario Public Health Standards.

The Council of Ontario’s Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) has prepared a paper on evidenced-based interventions that can prevent these events and reduce their consequences. A careful literature search was conducted, and recommendations made, based on the interventions that work to reduce speed and distraction, the main causes of fatalities and injuries, amongst others. This paper, entitled “Preventing Road Traffic Deaths and Injuries”, has been endorsed by COMOH and the Board of Association of Local Public Health Agencies and is about to enter the phase of action.

At its meeting of 2017-05-24, the KFL&A Board of Health approved the following motion:

THAT the Board endorse the report entitled “Preventing Road Traffic Deaths and Injuries”; and

THAT the Board inform the following of their endorsement of the report:
Association of Local Public Health Agencies, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, Ontario’s Minister of Transportation, Canada’s Minister of Transportation, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and Boards of Health in Ontario.
Linda Stewart, Executive Director
2017-06-09

The KFL&A Board of Health is requesting that you give consideration to this report, and to taking action for which you have authority in the recommendations. We are pleased to provide further information or clarification, or answer any questions on this paper.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Denis Doyle, Chair
KFL&A Board of Health

Copy to: Board of Health members