

**NORTHWESTERN HEALTH UNIT
BOARD OF HEALTH**

No. 98 - 2008

RESOLUTION

Moved by 

Seconded by M. Ward.....

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario has publicly funded HPV vaccine for Grade Eight females in the school setting during the Grade Eight year as of September 2007; and

WHEREAS the prevalence of the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) has been shown to be high in Canadian women and has been shown to be the cause of cervical cancer; and

WHEREAS cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among Canadian women under 50 years of age; and

WHEREAS Health Canada has approved the use of HPV vaccine for females aged nine to 26 years, to reduce cervical cancer in women in Ontario; and

WHEREAS Grade Eight females are socially and developmentally vulnerable with respect to this health care decision, and may not be able to take advantage of this offer at the time it is provided in Grade Eight because of the influence of peers, family, and/or disrupted family circumstances; and

WHEREAS female youth who decline or miss immunization through the program in Grade Eight for reasons other than a mature choice miss out on public funding if they subsequently choose immunizations; and

WHEREAS the consequences of either not initiating or not completing the vaccine regime, due to situations and circumstances, can have significant health implications, especially for high-risk female youth; and

WHEREAS the base price of HPV vaccine is approximately \$135.00 per dose, excluding pharmacy fees, which is cost prohibitive to high-risk female youth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health of the Northwestern Health Unit urges the Government of Ontario to provide immunization for the high-risk populations identified above; and

FURTHER THAT copies of this Resolution be forwarded to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Children and Youth Services, Minister of Health Promotion, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, alpha, local Members of Provincial Parliament, all Ontario Boards of Health, and local organizations that work in child protection for their information and support.

Date June 20, 2008

Chair 