

# DEPUTATION IN WRITING

REGIONAL COUNCIL

JULY 9, 2020

**Subject:** Mandatory Masking

**Spokesperson:** Dr. Edith Hui

**Name of Group or person(s) being represented (if applicable):**

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**Brief summary of issue or purpose of deputation:**

Dear Councillors,

I am a family physician in Toronto and have many friends and family who live in York Region. When Toronto and Peel region announced that they voted for mandatory masking which will be starting next week, it was the happiest news I had heard during the past 4 months. Mandatory lockdown, physical distancing, and hand hygiene were key to preventing the spread of virus. However, lockdown cannot go on forever - it is not sustainable for the economy and has some health consequences as well. So in order to continue to safely re-open, if we remove the lockdown then it is important to add another layer of protection with masks.

By making it mandatory, hopefully we will be able to achieve 60-80% masking which is needed in order to reduce transmission. Those who are able to mask will protect those amongst us who are the most vulnerable including those who cannot protect themselves, those who are at high risk, those who are disadvantaged, and those who are medically exempt.

This to me is no different than texting while driving or drinking and driving. I want to see us all protect each other during this very difficult time so that not another Canadian gets sick or dies from COVID-19.

Thank you for thinking of and caring for your people,

Dr. Edith Hui, MD

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