

Dr. Hugh Scully Testimony to the City of Toronto

(Past-President of Ontario Medical Association, Past-President of Canadian Medical Association, Past-President of Canadian Cardiovascular Society.)

As a physician leader in Canada with a great commitment to the health of Canadians, I am very concerned about the increasing evidence internationally that EMR is creating increasing health problems in our population as its use increases exponentially. This is particularly true among children and young Canadians, and teachers and nurses who are continuously exposed to WiFi routers in schools [and hospitals].

As a cardiac specialist, I am concerned that approximately 20% of people have detrimental cardiac rhythm sensitivity to EMR.

This issue is under active consideration by the Health and Public Policy Committee of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the Health Policy and Public Health Committees of the Canadian Medical Association and the Council of Family Physicians of Canada, the Canadian Pediatric Society and the Canadian Cardiovascular Society.

There is an abundance of evidence from around the world that EMR can be harmful to health. Many countries...not Canada or the United States...have initiated policies to mitigate the risks. We, in Canada, need to do the same or more.

It is imperative that City of Toronto does not install WiFi's in public parks and spaces. I ask you to vote against Councillor Matlow's proposal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Hugh Scully, BA,MD,MSc,FRSC[C],FACS

Professor of Surgery and Health Policy, University of Toronto, Past-President, OMA, CMA, CCS, Former Member of Council [Board], RCPSC and WMA, Member, Health Policy Advisory Council, American College of Surgeons.