TALKING POINTS FOR PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

What is lacking in the Wynne curriculum that should be addressed by Premier Ford's new sex ed

Give students a more honest, science-based presentation of HIV/AIDS

The Wynne/Levin sex curriculum downplayed the seriousness of contracting HIV/AIDS. It seemed preoccupied with getting students to believe that even if you get infected with HIV, you can still lead a "near-to-normal life".

The fact of the matter is that people living with HIV are having to take up to \$20,000 worth of powerful drug cocktails per year, for the rest of their lives. That is not a pleasant existence, and often, it is not without multiple hospitalizations. Although life can be prolonged with anti-HIV drugs, there is no cure. It is still a uniformly fatal disease.

The Wynne/Levin curriculum also hides the fact that a new "super bug" strain of HIV is spreading that is <u>treatment-resistent to antiretroviral drugs</u>. Epidemiologists are <u>worried</u> that this strain's prevalence may continue to increase, and one day, render HIV completely untreatable, thus taking away the ability to prolong life for HIV-infected patients.

If the sex ed curriculum in elementary schools is going to present information on Sexually-Transmitted Infections at all, kids must receive an honest, fact-based presentation about HIV/AIDS. It must not be downplayed to advance some kind of sexual liberation agenda just so that HIV-infected persons can continue to have all the sex they want, free from "stigma".