

**HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

June 15, 2023

MINUTES

The meeting was convened by Mr. Marshall at 9:30 am at the Health Unit's Port Hope office.

Those in attendance were Messrs. Marshall, Logel, Ryall, Crate and Perry, Dr. Hankivsky, Mrs. Richardson, Dr. Bocking, Mr. Vrooman, Ms. Beaulac, and Mrs. Dickson (Recorder).

1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit is situated on the traditional territories of the Michi Saagiig and Chippewa Nations. This includes the territories of Treaty 20 and Williams Treaties. We respectfully acknowledge that these Nations are the stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters for all time and that they continue to maintain this responsibility to ensure their health and integrity for generations to come.

The Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit recognizes the many harms done to Indigenous peoples and our collective responsibility to right those wrongs. As an organization that is rooted in a colonial system, we are committed to change, to building meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities and in improving our understanding of local Indigenous peoples as we celebrate their cultures and traditions, serve their communities, and responsibly honour all our relations.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Mr. Crate

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented, with the exception of item 8.1, Draft Consolidated Financial Statements being discussed first.

2023-83

carried

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Ryall

Seconded by Mr. Crate

THAT the minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting be approved.

2023-84
carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING

None

6. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH UPDATES

Dr. Bocking provided the Board with the following brief updates:

Wildfire Smoke Air Quality Event – The recent event was the first of its magnitude to impact the HKPR area and an opportunity to review the role of public health and communication regarding the air quality health index. The Health Unit is debriefing with municipalities as wildfires are likely to become a more frequent event. Communicating information to high-risk populations when these events occur, in addition to strategies to mitigate and adapt are topics of discussion.

Beach water testing has launched for the summer. Results are posted on the Health Unit's website.

Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction – Dr. Bocking will be participating on a panel presentation for the Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Northumberland (HKLN) Drug Strategy, hosted by the Municipality of Port Hope, on June 21st. The objective of the session is to bring together individuals involved in different aspects of the response and people with lived experience; hopefully the first of ongoing conversations.

Moved by Dr. Hankivsky

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the Medical Officer of Health updates be received for information.

2023-85
carried

7. REPORTS

7.1 Marianne Rock, Manager, Communicable Disease Prevention and Control, presented to the Board about the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Program

The Health Unit is mandated through the Ontario Public Health Standards to promote and provide publicly funded immunizations through school clinics; assess, maintain, and report on immunization

records of children in licensed daycares and schools; and enforce the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA) and the *Child Care and Early Years Act* (CCEYA).

Provincially, the COVID-19 pandemic decreased or eliminated access to routine childhood immunizations through health care providers and public health unit school clinic programs. Access to immunizations is provided through health care providers and public health units.

The Health Unit administered approximately 2000 doses each of Hepatitis B, HPV, and Meningitis vaccine to Grade 7 and 8 students over the course of 80 clinics during Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 and mailed 3,643 first notices, and 1,774 second notices, but did not enforce suspensions.

There are currently 6,332 students who require immunizations, or whose records need to be updated (JK through Grade 11).

Pre-pandemic, on average, 500 letters would be sent to parents of children in daycare whose immunization records were out of date; however, there has been no enforcement of the CCEYA since 2020.

The Health Unit needs to increase our cohorts for enforcement of the ISPA (all grades, all vaccines), increase vaccine coverage rates through the School Based Immunization Program, and re-establish the CCEYA program within daycares. We will be offering in-house clinics throughout the summer of 2023, engaging health care providers, and informing parents of upcoming ISPA enforcement in 2024. We will also be offering presentations to students and parents about the importance of vaccines.

Catch-up of this work requires a vast amount of resources; Board members were asked for their support in advocating for sustainable funding to meet the resource demands for vaccine preventable diseases programs.

Moved by Mrs. Richardson

Seconded by Dr. Hankivsky

THAT the Board of Health receive the presentation on the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Program for information.

2023-86
carried

7.2 Lindsay Greening, Karen Baker, Kristina Nairn, and Katelynn Lubbock, School Health Nurses, presented to the Board about the School Health Program

The Health Unit's School Health Nurses actively and collaboratively engage with our schools, community and health partners using the foundations of a healthy school approach to build healthy and equitable school communities.

While the primary focus of the School Health Nurses Initiative was on the COVID-19 response, with an emphasis on case, contact and outbreak management, the provincial government indicated that the additional nurses may also support the fulfilment of board of health requirements to improve the health

of school-aged children and youth, as per the School Health program standard and related guidelines and protocols under the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS).

The whole-school model builds capacity to incorporate well-being as an essential aspect of student achievement. As outlined in the OPHS, approaches must be informed by an assessment of the local population. Assessments involve a call or visit with each school principal to touch-base and discuss their initial thoughts on health topic priorities for their school. The prioritization of schools is based on data gathered from the Education Opportunities index and Oral Health Screening Data as well as the scale of readiness to engage. School Health Nurses then utilize a School Health Assessment Action Plan to determine activities that address the needs identified.

During the 2022/2023 school year, the Health Unit completed 53 brief assessments and 25 in-depth assessments. The most significant health concerns identified for areas of focus by school administration were mental health, vaping/substance use, interpersonal relationships, sexual health, social determinants of health barriers, concussions/injury prevention, and physical activity.

The School Health Nurses have delivered “Brain Day” workshops to each of the five high schools in Northumberland this year and additionally there were class sessions in high schools and elementary schools addressing conflict resolution, bullying, self-regulation, healthy coping, empathy/kindness, and body image. Other topics that the nurses have supported in schools include healthy sexuality, healthy relationships, healthy eating, and oral health.

The School Health Nurses have also facilitated the PALS program in four schools, provided 18 classroom sessions on vaping, two school events on mental health and emotional regulation and 17 classrooms sessions, and attended and supported a number of school open houses and engagement events.

We routinely provide consultations and support to school communities on a variety of health topics such as health teaching on non-reportable infectious diseases and providing information on community supports and work closely with internal and external partners as needed.

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the Board of Health receive the presentation on the School Health Program for information.

2023-87
carried

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Richard Steiginga, representing Baker Tilly, reviewed the Draft Consolidated Financial Statements for 2022 with the Board of Health.

Mr. Steinganga communicated in his review that there were no weaknesses, deficiencies, or illegal or improper acts that needed to be noted for the Board's attention; and that there were no related party transactions that needed to be disclosed.

Moved by Mrs. Richardson

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the 2022 Draft Consolidated Financial Statements be approved, and that all associated documentation be signed.

2022-88
carried

8.2 Unaudited Operating Statements

In summary, there is a cumulative deficit for the first five months of the fiscal year 2023, totaling (\$420,978). The province has not released one-time funding yet this year in the areas of COVID-19 Extraordinary Costs (\$466,894), and COVID-19 Vaccine Program (\$497,844). As such, 38.51% of our budgeted income has now been received during the first five months of the fiscal year. The current deficit will continue to correct itself throughout the year as we continue to receive our budgeted income.

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Dr. Hankivsky

THAT the draft unaudited operating statements for the five-month period ending May 31, 2023 in the amount of \$9,146,271 be received for information.

2023-89
carried

8.3 Initial Projections for 2024 Budget

Dr. Bocking advised the Board that the Health Unit is anticipating approval of its 2023 budget in August or September and that the Ministry of Health has signalled the end of a number of one-time funding pathways for the year 2024. The Health Unit is projecting significant shortfalls for 2024.

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Dr. Hankivsky

THAT the Board of Health receive this briefing note for information and THAT the Board of Health write to the Minister of Health to endorse letters provided by other health units and outline the anticipated financial constraints facing HKPR District Health Unit for the 2024 budget.

2023-90

carried

8.3 Policy Revision – Accessible Customer Service

Moved by Mr. Perry

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the Accessible Customer Service policy be approved.

2023-91

carried

9. BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Dr. Hankivsky shared with the Board that a walk-in clinic in Port Hope is hoping to run part-time by the summer and asked members to advise her of any physicians that may be interested in working at the clinic.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Mrs. Richardson

Seconded by Dr. Hankivsky

THAT the following correspondence be received and filed:

- Support for Sufficient, Stable and Sustained Funding for Public Health Units
- Association of Local Public Health Agencies May Information Break
- Prevention is key to reducing health care system strain
- Member Newsletter from the Ontario Public Health Association

2023-92

carried

11. IN-CAMERA SESSION

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Mr. Perry

THAT the Board of Health move in-camera to review the closed session minutes from the May 18, 2023 meeting and property items.

2023-93

carried

Moved by Mrs. Richardson

Seconded by Mr. Perry

THAT the in-camera be dissolved, and the membership return to the Board of Health open session.

2023-94

carried

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Mr. Crate

THAT the Board of Health approve the in-camera minutes from May 18, 2023.

2023-95

carried

Moved by Mr. Logel

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the Board of Health direct Health Unit management to negotiate more favourable lease terms with the current landlord for the Haliburton office.

2023-96

carried

Moved by Mr. Perry

Seconded by Mr. Crate

THAT the Board of Health direct Health Unit Management to examine opportunities to minimize occupancy costs for both the Lindsay and Port Hope offices and return to the Board of Health with a proposal in September 2023.

2023-97

carried

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be held at the Port Hope office on September 21, 2023, from 9:30 am – 11:30 am.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Dr. Hankivsky

Seconded by Mr. Ryall

THAT the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 11:33 am.

2023-98
carried

Board of Health Chair
Approved September 21, 2023

Recorder

DRAFT