

Title: **Q2-2023 Programs and Services Under the Ontario Public Health Standards**
To: Board of Health
From: Dr. Natalie Bocking
Date: September 21, 2023
In Camera? Yes No

Overview

- Section 5 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* (HPPA) specifies that boards of health must superintend, provide, or ensure the provision of public health programs and services in specified areas. [The Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability \(Standards\)](#) outline the minimum requirements that boards of health must meet for mandatory health programs and services.
- This briefing note provides a summary of key program achievements for the second quarter of 2023 (April 1 to June 30) to inform the Board about activities of the organization, monitor progress of activities, and ensure that the program requirements under the Ontario Public Health Standards are met.

Recommendations to Board

THAT the Board of Health receive the Q2-2023 summary for information.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Released the Climate Change Health Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment report.
- Implemented an 18 Month Well Baby visit campaign to encourage health care providers to connect with parents and caregivers of rostered patients who are 18 months of age to check on milestones and provide age-appropriate vaccinations. Goal of the 2023 campaign is to increase the number of appointments for eligible clients by 1%, with an emphasized focus on unattached clients.
- Completed several school health events including PALS, Brain Days, Not an Experiment (vaping) sessions, and Kindness and stress/anxiety presentations within schools.
- Provided a presentation to Northumberland Community Health Centre to integrate the perinatal mental health care pathway into practice.
- Promoted Naloxone awareness campaign including a Naloxone administration education video and updated information on the Health Unit's website.
- Hosted semi-annual "We're All in the Family Forum" for social service and health care providers with a focus on prenatal health and the Nurse Family Partnership program.
- Provided a Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) presentation to Peterborough Regional Health Centre in an effort to enhance referrals to the HBHC program.
- Provided information about the following on social media platforms: the Nurse Family Partnership home visiting program, extreme heat, wildfires, "What's in the Water?" (pine pollen, foam, and blue-green algae), the "Let's Go to Kindergarten Guide" developed by HKPR and Peterborough Public Health, Avian Flu, and the sexual health clinic online booking system.

Achievements in the second quarter, "by the numbers":

- 232 Healthy Babies Healthy Children home visits
- 52 infant feeding appointments
- 58 healthy families information and support line calls
- 75 postpartum clients received phone calls
- 1718 children screened for oral health issues
- 98 Ontario Senior Dental Care Program consultations
- 37 school consults provided support for identifying public health priorities at schools
- 2,185 doses of vaccine administered at clinics (non-COVID)
- 1518 doses of COVID-19 vaccine administered through clinics
- 10,792 doses of publicly funded vaccines distributed to health care sector partners
- 10 adverse storage conditions in vaccine refrigerators were responded to after-hours
- 206 infectious diseases of public health significance followed up on

- 22 outbreaks responded to (17 after-hours)
- 151 animal exposure investigations
- 162 clients seen at 30 sexual health clinics (208 appointments were available)
- 797 Naloxone kits distributed to community partners
- 471 food safety premise inspections and 33 re-inspections
- 125 other premise inspections (e.g., childcare facilities, personal service settings, group homes, etc.)
- 37 health hazard complaints investigated
- 92 tobacco product and vapour display and promotion inspections and 81 test shopper inspections conducted; (118 warnings and 21 tickets issued)

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS:

Of the 154 mandatory requirements, for the second quarter of 2023:

- 132 were met
- 18 were partly met
- 1 was not met
- 3 were not applicable

Requirements that were “partly met”:

- The epidemiology team continues to address the backlog of surveillance and analysis products required to inform program planning.
- Although work resumed on the assessment and enforcement of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA), this work has not yet resumed for child care settings due to insufficient human resources.
- Provincial and local knowledge exchange forums continue to restart and HKPR teams are participating in those activities related to their work.
- Health promotion components of the vaccine preventable diseases program have not yet been restored due to the human resource capacity needed to administer immunizations.
- Health promotion components of the sexual health program have not been restored due to insufficient human resources.

- Development and implementation of activities using a comprehensive health promotion approach that addresses risk and protective factors to reduce the burden of preventable injuries and substance use are on track for completion by the end of 2023.

Requirement that was “not met”:

- Vision screening in schools remains offline as resumption of oral health screening has been prioritized.

Three requirements were “not applicable” for the following reasons:

- There is no fluoridated drinking water within the HKPR District Health Unit area.
- There are no Consumption and Treatment Service sites located within the HKPR District Health Unit area.
- The Health Unit did not have any compliance or performance issues for which it was required to submit action plans to the Ministry of Health.