

Title: **Q2-2024 Programs and Services Under the Ontario Public Health Standards**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Dr. Natalie Bocking**

Date: **September 19, 2024**

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 2024 (April 1st to June 30th) 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 (OPHS) are met.

Recommendations to the Board of Health

THAT the Board of Health receive the Q2-2024 summary for information.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- Provided 8 client-focused health education sessions through EarlyON Centres and SIRCH on healthy growth and development, nutrition, and safe sleep.
- Delivered 10 Childcare Nutrition education sessions with community partners to launch the new Ontario Childcare Nutrition resource and support programming.
- Supported implementation of the following school-based programs: Not an Experiment, Mental Health Promotion, You're the Chef and the PALS program.
- Continued support of the Drug Test Strip Distribution pilot started in Q1, with expansion to additional community partners. Formalized processes were developed for onboarding partners. The Drug Test Strip Distribution Resource Guide was shared provincially with uptake from 3 other health units.
- Supported Youth Council at the Teen Wellness Fair by utilizing the Virtual Not an Experiment (NAE) game with approximately 100 people in attendance.
- Developed content for the Needle Pick Up Safety Campaign - Video and poster which will provide step-by-step education regarding how to safely pick up a discarded needle. A Fall campaign implementation is currently planned.

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

- 300 Healthy Babies Healthy Children home visits
- 35 infant feeding appointments
- 49 healthy families information and support line calls
- 63 postpartum clients received phone calls
- 1,812 children screened for oral health issues
- 40 Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program consultations
- 2,383 overdue student immunization records assessed
- 2,293 doses of vaccine administered at clinics (non-COVID)
- 13,426 doses of publicly funded vaccines distributed to health care sector partners
- 6 adverse storage conditions in vaccine refrigerators responded to
- 455 infectious diseases of public health significance followed up on (includes COVID)
- 21 outbreaks responded to
- 161 animal exposure investigations
- 164 clients seen at 28 sexual health clinics (244 appointments were available)

- 790 Naloxone kits distributed to community partners
- 11,578 needles distributed through the Needle Exchange Program
- 642 food safety premise inspections and 41 re-inspections
- 134 special occasion events processed
- 47 annual public beach surveys completed
- 52 health hazard complaints investigated
- 188 tobacco product and vapour display and promotion inspections and 68 test shopper inspections conducted; (123 warnings, and 20 tickets issued)

SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS:

Of the 152 mandatory requirements, for the second quarter of 2024:

- 142 were met
- 7 were partly met
- 1 were not met
- 3 were not applicable

Examples of requirements that were “partly met”:

- Policies and procedures are available to employees and students and include review and revision dates. Regular review has paused due to potential merger and harmonization of policies and procedures (P&Ps). P&Ps that require immediate attention are being addressed.
- The childcare immunization record program has yet to be restored post pandemic as resources have been focused on the school-based immunization program.

Requirements that was “not met”:

- Vision screening in schools remains offline.
- Assessment of children’s immunization status in School’s and Child Care settings have not been restarted post pandemic, resources have been dedicated to Immunization of School Pupil’s Act.