



**City of Hamilton
BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA**

Meeting #: 21-007
Date: July 7, 2021
Time: 9:30 a.m.
Location: Due to the COVID-19 and the Closure of City Hall (CC)

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Loren Kolar, Legislative Coordinator (905) 546-2424 ext. 2604

1. CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(Added Items, if applicable, will be noted with *)

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1. June 14, 2021

5. COMMUNICATIONS

5.1. Correspondence from the Hon. Christine Elliot, Minister of Health, respecting Amended Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability

Recommendation: Be received.

5.2. Correspondence from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit respecting Mitigation Funding 2022

Recommendation: Be endorsed.

5.3. Correspondence from Peterborough Public Health Unit respecting Mitigation Funding 2022

Recommendation: Be endorsed.

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

7. CONSENT ITEMS

8. STAFF PRESENTATIONS

8.1. Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to Present (to be distributed)

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS

10. DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. MOTIONS

12. NOTICES OF MOTION

13. GENERAL INFORMATION / OTHER BUSINESS

14. PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

15. ADJOURNMENT



BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES 21-006

9:30 a.m.

Monday, June 14, 2021

Due to COVID-19 and the closure of City Hall, this meeting was held virtually

Present: Mayor F. Eisenberger
Councillors M. Wilson (Vice-Chair), J. Farr, N. Nann, S. Merulla, C. Collins, T. Jackson, E. Pauls, J.P. Danko, B. Clark, M. Pearson, B. Johnson, L. Ferguson, A. VanderBeek and J. Partridge

Absent with Regrets: Councillors T. Whitehead – Leave of Absence

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE REFERRED TO COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION:

1. Board of Health Governance Overview (BOH21006) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)

(Farr/Nann)

- (a) That the Chair & Vice Chair of the Board of Health continue to engage in discussions regarding public health modernization with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Province of Ontario and Association of Municipalities Ontario, and bring forward the importance of equity, diversity, and inclusion to those tables;
- (b) ***That the Medical Officer of Health, or designate, engage an external vendor to plan and deliver an education session on the topic of governance and structural options for the Board of Health to consider and to ensure members have up to date information as the Province moves ahead with discussions and decisions related to public health modernization;***
- (c) That Public Health staff be directed to engage with the newly established Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Sub-committee to ensure appropriate internal and external consultations and standards of practice through implementation of public health modernization.

Result: Main Motion as Amended, CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
ABSENT	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr

YES	-	Ward 3	Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4	Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5	Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6	Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7	Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8	Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9	Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10	Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

FOR INFORMATION:

(a) CEREMONIAL ACTIVITIES (Item 1)

There were no ceremonial activities.

(b) CHANGES TO THE AGENDA (Item 2)

The Committee Clerk advised the Board of the following changes to the agenda:

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1. Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings

Recommendation: Be received.

6. DELEGATION REQUESTS

- 6.1. Delegation Request from Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton, respecting the Board of Health Governance Overview (BOH21006) (for today's meeting)
- 6.2. Delegation Request from Kojo Dampsey, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion, respecting the Board of Health Governance Review (BOH21006) (for today's meeting)
- 6.3. Delegation Request from Kathy Johnson, ACORN, respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, Video Submission (for today's meeting)
- 6.4. Delegation Request from Claudette Gadoury, ACORN, respecting

Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, Video Submission (for today's meeting)

- 6.5 Delegation Request from Rebecca Guzzo, ACORN, respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, Video Submission (for today's meeting)

7. CONSENT ITEMS

- 7.1 Clerk's Report - Physician Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee- May 25,2021

(Merulla/Johnson)

That the agenda for the June 14, 2021 Board of Health be approved, as amended.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(c) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Item 3)

Councillor Merulla declared an interest in Items 5.1, Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, and 6.3 to 6.5, Delegations Requests respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, as he and his spouse are rental property owners.

Councillor Pearson declared an interest in Items 5.1, Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, and 6.3 to 6.5, Delegations Requests respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, as

she and her spouse are rental property owners.

Councillor VanderBeek declared an interest in Items 5.1, Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, and 6.3 to 6.5, Delegations Requests respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, as she and her spouse are rental property owners.

(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (Item 4)

(i) May 17, 2021 (Item 4.1)

(Partridge/Danko)

That the Minutes of the May 17, 2021 meeting of the Board of Health be approved, as presented.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(e) COMMUNICATIONS (Item 5)

(i) Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings (Added Item 5.1)

(Jackson/Wilson)

That the Correspondence from ACORN respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(f) DELEGATION REQUESTS (Item 6)

(Nann/Pauls)

That the following Delegation Requests be approved for today's meeting:

- (i) Delegation Request from Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton, respecting the Board of Health Governance Overview (BOH21006) (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.1)
- (ii) Delegation Request from Kojo Dampsey, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion, respecting the Board of Health Governance Review (BOH21006) (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.2)
- (iii) Delegation Request from Kathy Johnson, ACORN, respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.3)
- (iv) Delegation Request from Claudette Gadoury, ACORN, respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.4)
- (v) Delegation Request from Rebecca Guzzo, ACORN, respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings (for today's meeting) (Added Item 6.5)

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 12 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item (i)(iii) and (i)(iv).

(g) CONSENT ITEMS (Item 7)

(i) Clerk's Report - Physician Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee - May 25, 2021 (Added Item 7.1)

(Danko/Wilson)

That the Clerk's Report - Physician Recruitment and Retention Steering Committee - May 25, 2021, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 15 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
YES	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
YES	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead

YES - Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(h) STAFF PRESENTATIONS (Item 9)

(i) Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to Present (Item 9.1)

Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health; Michelle Baird, Director, Healthy and Safe Communities and Stephanie Hughes, Epidemiologist, Healthy and Safe Communities, addressed the Board with an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to present, with the aid of a PowerPoint presentation.

(Ferguson/Pearson)

That the Presentation respecting an Overview of COVID-19 Activity in the City of Hamilton 11 Mar to present, be received.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 13 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
YES	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(i) PUBLIC HEARINGS / DELEGATIONS (Item 9)

(i) The following Delegations addressed the Board respecting Report BOH21006 Board of Health Governance Overview (City Wide) (Item 10.1):

(a) Lynda Lukasik, Environment Hamilton (Added Item 9.1)

(b) Kojo Dampety, Hamilton Centre for Civic Inclusion (Added Item 9.2)

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item 1.

- (ii) The following Delegations addressed the Board respecting Mandatory Regulations to Stop COVID-19 Spread in Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings:
- (a) Kathy Johnson, ACORN (Added Item 9.3)
 - (b) Claudette Gadoury, ACORN (Added Item 9.4)
 - (c) Rebecca Guzzo, ACORN (Added Item 9.5)

For disposition of this matter, please refer to Item (i)(iii) and (i)(iv).

(Farr/Nann)

That above Delegations, listed as Items 9.1 to 9.5, be received:

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
YES	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(iii) **(Farr/Nann)**

That staff be directed to report back to the Board of Health on the implementation of the following COVID-10 related requirements regarding Multiple Residential Apartment Buildings – Highrise 1 and 2 Buildings:

- (a) Proper PPE give to building staff while working in the building
- (b) Signage in common areas encouraging social distancing and handwashing
- (c) Placement of hand sanitizer in common areas
- (d) Disinfection of High Contact Surfaces twice a day
- (e) Posting a cleaning schedule
- (f) Regular Updates to Tenants on COVID-19 measures; and
- (g) Provide free PPE in common areas

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 10 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
ABSENT	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
ABSTAIN	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(iv) **(Clark/Eisenberger)**

That staff be directed to prepare a letter on behalf of the Board of Health and the City of Hamilton reiterating the importance of a local Board of Health, especially when dealing with local outbreaks such as COVID-19.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
ABSENT	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

(j) **DISCUSSION ITEM (Item 10)**

(i) **Board of Health Governance Overview (BOH21006) (City Wide) (Item 10.1)**

(Nann/Farr)

- (a) That the Chair & Vice Chair of the Board of Health continue to engage in discussions regarding public health modernization with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, Province of Ontario and Association of Municipalities Ontario, and bring forward the importance of equity, diversity, and inclusion to those tables;
- (b) That the Medical Officer of Health, or designate, engage an external vendor to plan and deliver an education session on the topic of governance for the Board of Health to ensure members have up to date information as the Province moves ahead with discussions and decisions related to public health modernization; and
- (c) That Public Health staff be directed to engage with the newly established Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Sub-committee to ensure appropriate internal and external consultations and standards of practice through implementation of public health modernization.

(Nann/Farr)

That sub-section (b) of Report BOH21006 respecting the Board of Health Governance overview, be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

- (b) ***That the Medical Officer of Health, or designate, engage an external vendor to plan and deliver an education session on the topic of governance and structural options for the Board of Health to consider and to ensure members have up to date information as the Province moves ahead with discussions and decisions related to public health modernization;***

Result: Amendment CARRIED by a vote of 7 to 4, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
ABSENT	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
NO	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
NO	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
NO	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson

ABSENT	-	Ward 11	Councillor Brenda Johnson
NO	-	Ward 12	Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13	Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14	Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15	Councillor Judy Partridge

For further disposition, refer to Item 1.

(j) ADJOURNMENT (Item 15)

(Pearson/Ferguson)

That, there being no further business, the Board of Health be adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Result: Motion CARRIED by a vote of 11 to 0, as follows:

YES	-	Mayor Fred Eisenberger
ABSENT	-	Ward 1 Councillor Maureen Wilson
YES	-	Ward 2 Councillor Jason Farr
YES	-	Ward 3 Councillor Nrinder Nann
ABSENT	-	Ward 4 Councillor Sam Merulla
ABSENT	-	Ward 5 Councillor Chad Collins
YES	-	Ward 6 Councillor Tom Jackson
YES	-	Ward 7 Councillor Esther Pauls
YES	-	Ward 8 Councillor J. P. Danko
YES	-	Ward 9 Councillor Brad Clark
YES	-	Ward 10 Councillor Maria Pearson
ABSENT	-	Ward 11 Councillor Brenda Johnson
YES	-	Ward 12 Councillor Lloyd Ferguson
YES	-	Ward 13 Councillor Arlene VanderBeek
ABSENT	-	Ward 14 Councillor Terry Whitehead
YES	-	Ward 15 Councillor Judy Partridge

Respectfully submitted,

Mayor F. Eisenberger
Chair, Board of Health

Loren Kolar
Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk

Ministry of Health

Office of the Deputy Premier
and Minister of Health

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Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du vice-premier ministre
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June 9, 2021

72-2021-229

MEMORANDUM TO: Board of Health Chairs and Medical Officers of Health

FROM: **Christine Elliott**
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
Ministry of Health

RE: Amended Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability

I am releasing amendments to the Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability (OPHS) under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, in support of important government initiatives including:

- The Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP). This targeted program helps reduce unnecessary trips to the hospital, prevents chronic disease and increases quality of life for seniors with low-income.
- The Consumption and Treatment Services Program supports related inspection and enforcement programs and services.

There will be a follow-up memo from Dr. Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, outlining the changes in more detail and providing a copy for your records. The new OPHS is effective immediately and will be made available in English and French through the Ministry of Health's website:

http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/.

I would like to express my thanks to you and your staff for your ongoing work in upholding the OPHS and look forward to our continued work together as we modernize and strengthen the public health sector for the benefit of all Ontarians.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine J. Elliott".

Christine Elliott

c: Helen Angus, Deputy Minister
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

June 21, 2021

Honourable Christine Elliott
Ministry of Health
777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:

On behalf of the Board of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, I commend the strong progress being made in bringing COVID-19 under control through the public health measures and the vaccination campaign directed by the provincial government of Ontario. Much work remains as we collectively work to complete the vaccination of the population and to work through the provincial Roadmap very carefully, all the while maintaining close surveillance on the trajectory of transmission. However, our strong progress enables us to begin planning for and working towards recovery, including the recovery of the public health system across the province.

One essential enabler of recovery is financial stability. At this point in time, boards of health are in active communication with Ministry of Health staff on the finances required to continue managing the pandemic in our communities. However, it would also be timely to consider for boards of health to soon receive communication from the province on the financial support from the province for our operational budgets in 2022. The Mitigation Funding received in recent years has been essential in maintaining public health programming by boards of health and easing the related financial impacts on our obligated municipalities, particularly during our response to the pandemic in 2020 and 2021. For this reason, on June 15, the Board of Health approved a motion recommending that boards of health receive the Mitigation Funding from the Ministry of Health in 2022 that they received in 2021.

Boards of health have had to greatly augment their staffing through the course of the pandemic to enable our overall response, including the immunization of the population that has proved to be so essential. As we recover, boards of health will need to reduce staffing provided that the pandemic continues to come under control and remain under control; however, boards of health will also need to maintain staff levels sufficient for the resumption of our standard public health programming, and for any outstanding needs related to the ongoing control of the pandemic (such as remaining case and contact management, the potential for booster vaccinations at some point in the future, and ongoing work to ensure the safety of the school environment).

Without a continuation of Mitigation Funding in 2022 the maintenance of these activities would be greatly challenged. Boards of health would need to engage with their funding municipalities regarding the potential for substantial levy increases. Resulting staffing reductions below the levels that had been in place before the pandemic, would both impact program delivery and require sufficient advance notice to be managed. To be in place in time for the commencement of the 2022 year, boards of health would

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15 Sperling Drive
Barrie, ON
L4M 6K9
705-721-7520
FAX: 705-721-1495

Collingwood:
280 Pretty River Pkwy.
Collingwood, ON
L9Y 4J5
705-445-0804
FAX: 705-445-6498

Cookstown:
2-25 King Street S.
Cookstown, ON
L0L 1L0
705-458-1103
FAX: 705-458-0105

Gravenhurst:
2-5 Pineridge Gate
Gravenhurst, ON
P1P 1Z3
705-684-9090
FAX: 705-684-9887

Huntsville:
34 Chaffey St.
Huntsville, ON
P1H 1K1
705-789-8813
FAX: 705-789-7245

Midland:
A-925 Hugel Ave.
Midland, ON
L4R 1X8
705-526-9324
FAX: 705-526-1513

Orillia:
120-169 Front St. S.
Orillia, ON
L3V 4S8
705-325-9565
FAX: 705-325-2091

also need to commence these staffing reductions in the present year while we are still responding to the pandemic.

For these reasons the Board of Health urges the provincial government to commit to the Mitigation Funding in 2022 at a level in keeping with that in 2021. The communication of this commitment soon would help to avoid the potential for boards of health to otherwise commence this kind of anticipatory action.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau
Chair, Board of Health

AD:CG:cm

cc: Ontario Boards of Health
MPPs of Simcoe Muskoka
Mayor Jeff Lehman, City of Barrie
Mayor Steve Clarke, City of Orillia
District Chair John Klinck, District of Muskoka
Warden George Cornell, County of Simcoe
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Loretta Ryan, Association of Local Public Health Agencies.

June 23, 2021

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Elliott,

I want to begin by thanking you and your government for your financial support during the pandemic. Local boards of health have appreciated the province's commitment to funding, at 100%, the costs related to the COVID response and the mandate to implement the largest mass immunization campaign in Ontario's history. Your approach has facilitated our ability to serve our local population.

As we move towards summer, we are encouraged by the increase in vaccine coverage, decreased cases and opening of businesses and facilities. However, there is still a lot of work ahead and, if we've learned anything from this experience, the end point is never truly predictable.

The impact of your assistance was noted by our Board when we recently approved the audited financial statements for Peterborough Public Health's 2020 fiscal year. At the same time, we continue to await approval of our 2021 Annual Service Plan - including the provincial cost-shared grant and extraordinary one-time funding for COVID Response and COVID Vaccination. Your anticipated assistance in mitigating costs in 2021 will be critical in allowing us to complete the job of controlling the pandemic.

During the COVID emergency, we have had to make difficult decisions about which program activities to stop, which to continue at reduced capacity, and which to continue without disruption. Post-COVID we will need to rebuild programs, catch up on wait lists and delayed activities, meet new community needs and continue to address the fallout from an intense 21 months of COVID work.

Facing these challenges, I ask that you ensure public health is adequately funded to meet the evolving public health needs of our communities and further ask that you and your officials provide timely clarity regarding what support local public health agencies can anticipate in 2022. Early advice on key funding commitments for 2022 will allow my Board to more effectively manage our 2022 fiscal requirements.

More specifically, our Board would ask that your government consider a commitment to:

1. Continuation of mitigation funding for the 2022 fiscal year;
2. Continuation of the availability of one-time funding for COVID expenses;
3. An increase in the base funding levels to accommodate increased operating costs since 2019; and,
4. Funding to support the enhanced need for "re-starting" or returning programs to OPHS requirement levels.

Local public health agencies, along with their partners, are determined to rebuild community health. This effort cannot be put on the shoulders of local funders alone and we look to a continuing partnership with the government.

Our Board looks forward to working with you and your Ministry as we plan for and implement post-pandemic public health initiatives.

Yours truly,

Original signed by

Mayor Andy Mitchell
Chair, Board of Health

cc: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Dr. Kieran Moore, Incoming Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dave Smith, MPP Peterborough-Kawartha
David Piccini, MPP Northumberland-Peterborough South
Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health