



Hamilton

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
COMMITTEE DATE:	June 15, 2015
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Pan Am 2015 Hamilton Public Health Services Update - BOH15021 (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
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SIGNATURE:	

Council Direction:

Not applicable

Information:

This report will provide the Board of Health with an update on Hamilton Public Health Services' (PHS) preparations for the Pan Am 2015 Games being hosted in the City of Hamilton.

Preparations

Toronto 2015 has responsibility for delivery of the Pan Am Games. PHS has been working in partnership with Toronto 2015, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC), and Public Health Ontario (PHO) to ensure local public health preparedness. This has been accomplished through participation in various local and provincial working groups, including with local health sector partners (e.g., hospitals, primary care), the City of Hamilton emergency planning groups, and provincial planning and response groups for food safety, water safety, heat response, and surveillance.

Planning for the Pan Am Games has also included PHS' participation in related emergency management exercises at the municipal, regional, and provincial levels (total=10).

Hamilton Public Health Support before and during the Pan Am Games

From July 10-26, 2015, the City of Hamilton will host the soccer games for Pan Am 2015. In advance of the Games, PHS is taking steps to promote a positive experience for players, officials and spectators. Key preparatory activities include:

- Development of emergency response plans based on the health impact risk assessment conducted by Public Health Ontario;
- Ongoing food premise inspections with enhanced information and education to operators to minimize the risk of foodborne illness during the Games;
- Collaborating with Public Health Ontario to enhance infectious disease surveillance and communications across the Pan Am footprint to minimize the risk of infectious disease outbreaks; and
- Participation in a consistent approach to heat warnings and advisories with other municipalities and health units in the Pan Am footprint.

During the Pan Am Games, PHS anticipates enhanced activities in the following areas:

- Food premise inspection related to Pan Am cultural events and festivals;
- Increased communications with regional and provincial partners, particularly related to infectious disease surveillance; and
- Increased communications with City of Hamilton's Municipal Command Centre, MOHLTC, and PHO to ensure any potential public health risks to the Games are managed quickly and effectively.

Financial and Human Resource Implications

PHS has taken steps to ensure sufficient staffing to maintain business continuity and increased requirements in some operational areas. All staff who support PHS' emergency response structure and program areas significantly impacted by the Games have postponed vacation from July 10-26. The Food safety team has postponed vacation for the months of June and July to meet the demands of OPHS compliance and the surge demand related to Pan Am. Other Health Protection teams have restricted vacation requests to below normal levels for June and July.

Costs beyond the approved 2015 budget related to the Games will be tracked and submitted to Toronto 2015 and the MOHLTC for reimbursement consideration.