INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Public Health Sub-Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	January 13, 2025
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Public Health Sub-Committee Orientation: Session 2 (BOH24025(a)) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Carolyn Hureau (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6004
SUBMITTED BY: **SIGNATURE:**	Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Not Applicable.

INFORMATION

As outlined at the first meeting of the Public Health Sub-Committee, several presentations are being provided as part of a four-part public health orientation series. The purpose of this orientation series is to provide Public Heath Sub-Committee members with background and information that will support them in fulfilling their role.

The first orientation session (Public Health Sub-Committee Report BOH24025) at the December 2, 2024, Public Health Sub-Committee meeting included:
- A presentation by external speaker, Karima Kanani, partner at Miller-Thompson LLP, regarding the legislative framework for public health governance and good governance principles; and,
- A staff presentation outlining the history of public health in Hamilton, foundational principles, and 2024 priorities.

During the second orientation session on January 13, 2025, Loretta Ryan and Monika Turner from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies will provide an overview of public health in Ontario, including the Ontario Public Health Standards, accountability framework, funding, and governance roles and responsibilities, as well as the Association's function. This will be followed by a staff presentation outlining the Public

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.
OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

Health Services' organizational structure, programs and services, and current pressures and opportunities.

The Ontario Public Health Standards ("Standards") set the minimum requirements for public health programs and services by boards of health across the province. These Standards include a total of 90 outcome-based requirements related to the five core public health functions:
- Assessment and Surveillance;
- Health Promotion and Policy Development;
- Health Protection;
- Disease Prevention; and,
- Emergency Management.

It should be noted that the Ontario Public Health Standards are currently under review as part of the Provincial Strategy to Strengthen Public Health in Ontario. The Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health has advised that the final revised standards will be available in August 2025 for full implementation by January 1, 2026.

Public Health Services offers a wide range of programs and services to meet the requirements set out in the Standards. All of these programs are funded using a provincial/municipal cost-shared model, except for Healthy Babies Healthy Children and the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program which are 100% provincially funded. Public Health Services also provides services beyond those required under the Standards, to address local needs. These services are either 100% provincially funded (e.g., Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Ontario Health West, etc.) or 100% municipally funded. More information regarding budget and funding sources will be provided during the third orientation session scheduled for February 24, 2025.

Appendix "A" to Public Health Sub-Committee Report BOH24025(a) contains service profiles and descriptions of Public Health Services' programs as well as four short stories inspired by the work that staff do each and every day. These stories are meant to help illustrate and contextualize the work of Public Health Services in practice.

Appendix "B" to Public Health Sub-Committee Report BOH24025(a) contains a brief introduction to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) and the services it provides to Ontario Boards of Health.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix "A" to Report BOH24025(a)   Description of Public Health Services'
                                            Programs

Appendix "B" to Report BOH24025(a)   Introduction to alPHa

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy,
safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.
OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service,
Engaged Empowered Employees.