

**Board of Health  
Minutes**

**November 20, 2019  
9:15 am - 12:00 pm  
Barrie Office**

Board Members Present: R. Cipolla, L. Dollin, A. Dubeau, R. Milne, F. Pinto,  
P. Preager, S. Warnock, P. Willmott, L. Oehm, S. Kinsella

Regrets: S. Cairns, G. Harvey, P. Koetsier, M. McCann

Staff Present: C. Gardner, K. Ellis-Scharfenberg, C. Shoreman

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:15am.

1.1 Welcome to Celeste Loewe, Public Health and Preventative Medicine Resident

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion 2.0**

**MOVED BY S. Kinsella**

**SECONDED BY P. Willmott**

THAT the Board of Health approve the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

**4. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

4.1 Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2019.

**Motion 4.1**

**MOVED BY S. Kinsella**

**SECONDED BY P. Willmott**

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the October 16, 2019 Board of Health meeting.

**CARRIED**

**5. In Camera**

- 5.1 Approval of Minutes
- 5.2 Personnel Issue
- 5.3 HR Issue

**Motion 5.0**

**MOVED BY** S. Kinsella

**SECONDED BY** P. Willmott

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the October 16, 2019 in camera minutes and discuss one Personnel and one HR issue.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.1**

**MOVED BY** S. Kinsella

**SECONDED BY** P. Willmott

THAT the Board of Health come out of in camera and report.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.2**

**MOVED BY** P. Preager

**SECONDED BY** F. Pinto

THAT the Board of Health write to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting that the five provincial appointees be extended until December 31, 2021.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.3**

**MOVED BY** P. Preager

**SECONDED BY** L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for the Pay Equity Plan for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) and the Ontario Nurse's Association reached on October 19, 2019 (Appendix A).

**CARRIED**

**6. Business Arising**

- 6.1 Year-to-Date Financial Report for the Period Ending September 30, 2019. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg discussed the third quarter financial reports provided to the Board of Health on a quarterly basis, highlighting salary and benefit costs, and operating expenditures.

It was noted that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has announced upcoming changes to the fiscal year with the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program being changed to have its year end on March 31.

**Motion 6.1**

**MOVED BY** F. Pinto

**SECONDED BY** P. Preager

THAT the Board of Health receive the third quarter financial reports for the Mandatory and Related Public Health Programs and Services for information.

**CARRIED**

6.2 2019 Budget Implementation Report for Mandatory & Related Programs. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis Scharfenberg presented the provincial grant funding for 2019/2020 for cost-shared and 100% provincially funded Mandatory and Related Programs. The approved grant for 2019/2020 was unchanged from 2018 with a few exceptions, specifically related to the Indigenous Engagement Strategy, Public Health Inspector student practicum and the Needle Exchange Program. New 100% provincial funding was received for the Ontario Seniors' Dental Care program.

It was noted that some of the salary and benefit under-expenditures will be utilized to address items such as:

- complete research related to the built environment;
- invest in infrastructure to address health and safety requirements and routine maintenance;
- increase funding for insurance to reflect the increase upon renewal due to claims experience, enhancements of liability coverage for both the agency and board and the purchase of cyber insurance coverage;
- invest in technology including assessments specific to disaster recovery and malware risks
- maintenance and enhancements of facilities

The procurement of an Indigenous Consultant was discussed to assist with an Indigenous Situational Assessment. Alternate funding sources were also discussed.

**Motion 6.2**

**MOVED BY** L. Dollin

**SECONDED BY** P. Preager

THAT the Board of Health receive the 2019 Budget Implementation Report for Mandatory & Related Programs briefing note for information and consideration in 2020 budget deliberations.

**CARRIED**

- 6.3 Barrie Supervised Consumption Services Update. Briefing Note. L. Simon and N. Riewe presenting.

L. Simon presented on the ongoing opioid crisis within Simcoe Muskoka noting that it is a critical public health issue. The Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) is a collaborative partnership with many community partners with the Harm Reduction Strategy being one pillar within this strategy.

The Supervised Consumption Site (SCS) is one initiative within this comprehensive approach. A series of activities from January to May 2019 have been completed to meet the requirements of an SCS application which initially went to Barrie City Council for endorsement on May 27, 2019. In June, Barrie City Council deferred endorsing the application.

It was identified that the Gilbert Centre has stepped back as the lead applicant and a new lead is to be determined. The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Simcoe County Branch has offered their services to lead this initiative. The David Busby Centre is also interested in being part of this group. SMDHU will continue to provide support in the SCS application process, provide assistance with the selection of alternate potential sites, communications, community consultation and engagement and submission of applications. The direct line of responsibility will remain with the lead applicant which is CMHA.

Board members discussed the possibility of the Barrie City Council passing a motion to use their resources to address the opioid crisis and work collaboratively with partners.

**Motion 6.3**

**MOVED BY** S. Warnock

**SECONDED BY** R. Milne

THAT the Board of Health receive this briefing note as information.

AND FURTHERMORE THAT that the Board of Health endorse SMDHU as co-applicant for the Barrie SCS application, with CMHA Simcoe Branch as applicant.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

- 6.4 Public Health Modernization Consultation Preparation. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and C. Shoreman presenting.

C. Gardner presented the recent information received from Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care representatives which indicates that the original direction provided to health units that the creation of 10 regional public health entities has now been paused. It is now anticipated that the current Boards of Health will continue to exist beyond April 1, 2020 for an unknown duration.

In advance of the provincial consultation process to be led by Jim Pine, Provincial Adviser, it is recommended that the Board now advocate a new perspective on the future of SMDHU.

It was identified that Boards of Health are key in the Public Health modernization process according to the Province of Ontario's Health Protection and Promotion Act.

**Motion 6.4**

**MOVED BY** L. Dollin

**SECONDED BY** L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health support the position that the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit remain as an independent health unit operating within its current boundaries and under its current governance structure;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health write to the Minister of Health and Jim Pine communicating this position and the rationale for it;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the municipal councils, MPs, and MPPs of Simcoe Muskoka, our partner agencies, and the Boards of Health for the northeastern health units and for the York Region public health department receive a copy of this letter.

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Councils of the four obligated municipalities be asked to endorse the motion.

**CARRIED AS AMENDED**

**7. New Business**

- 7.1 Public Health Transition and Awareness Communications Plan. Briefing Note. C. Shoreman and M. Williams presenting.

C. Gardner presented the public health awareness campaign which will assist in enhancing the public's understanding of the role and mandate of public health. This has been created as a component of the Public Health Transition and Awareness (PHTA) Communications Plan with implementation planned for November 2019.

A high level overview was provided by C. Shoreman and M. Williams which is identified as a goal in the Strategic Plan. The 'Make the Connection' campaign fulfills the goal's objective to create and implement a communications strategy to increase awareness of the health unit's role and its positive benefits.

The Board reviewed the communications plan, the social media ads as well as the radio campaign.

**Motion 7.1**

**MOVED BY** F. Pinto

**SECONDED BY** L. Dollin

THAT the Board of Health receive this briefing note as information.

**CARRIED**

**8. Consent Agenda**

- 8.1 Cannabis Edibles, Extracts and Topicals. Briefing Note. C. Gardner, N. Riewe and R. Dupuis.

R. Dupuis provided an overview of the cannabis legislation and current requirements. Board members reviewed the new cannabis related HealthSTATS pages related to emergency department visits and hospitalizations which is notably higher in Simcoe Muskoka than other Ontario health units.

Board members requested further information related to edibles, labeling and messaging for private homemade edibles.

S. Rebellato responded to questions related to food safety at farmers' markets noting that SMDHU receives and reviews a list of registered vendors. At this time any edibles being sold would be a legal matter and reported to the authorities.

- 8.2 2019 Nutritious Food Basket Update. Briefing Note. N. Riewe and C. Bushey.

V. Hurley provided an update of the 2019 nutritious food basket survey results noting that the overall monthly cost to feed a family of four has increased by approximately 8% since 2018 (which is a 14% increase over a 5 year period).

Climate change, energy costs and food waste were discussed as possible reasons for the rising costs of food. The School Health Program provides various food skills programs within the community.

**Motion 8.0**

**MOVED BY** F. Pinto

**SECONDED BY** L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health receive the following consent agenda items for information:

- a) Cannabis Edibles, Extracts and Topicals.
- b) 2019 Nutritious Food Basket Update.

**CARRIED**

**9. Announcements**

C. Gardner provided an update of the Legionella investigation in Orillia including the recent joint press conference with the City of Orillia.

A policy review will be conducted in the future as there are currently no provincial legislative requirements to reduce the risk of legionella release from the cooling towers of large buildings, with a report to the Board and an aPHa resolution recommendation for June 2020.

**10. Items of Education**

10.1 New Board of Health Orientation Days. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, 15 Sperling Drive, Mariposa Room (lunch provided).

- Next Session: Wednesday, November 20, 12:00pm - 1:00pm, Clinical Service Department – Colleen Nisbet, Vice President
- Upcoming Session: Wednesday, January 15, 12:00pm – 1:00pm, Community and Family Health Department – Carolyn Shoreman, Vice President

**11. Items of Information**

11.1 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to the Municipal Councils of the County of Simcoe, District of Muskoka, City of Orillia and City of Barrie re Levy Increase in 2020 for the obligated municipalities of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

11.2 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re prohibiting of vapour products in convenience stores and gas stations effective January 1, 2020

11.3 Letter from Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario to Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re Acknowledgement of SMDHU Annual Report

11.4 Report from the Steering Committee of the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy (SMOS) re Opportunities for Municipal Action on the Opioid Crisis

11.5 News Release and Connected Care Update from the Ministry of Health re Ontario Taking Steps to Integrate Health Care System

11.6 News Release from the Ministry of Health re Protecting Youth from the Dangers of Vaping: Ontario Banning the Promotion of Vaping Products Outside of Specialty Stores

- 11.7 Letter from Carmen McGregor, aPHa President to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term re Protecting Youth from the Dangers of Vaping
- 11.8 Letter from Loretta Ryan, aPHa Executive Director to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term re Minister's Round Table – Youth and Vaping
- 11.9 Letter from David Jewitt, Board of Health Chair for Huron County Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term re Amendment to SFOA, 2017 to restrict the promotion of vaping products
- 11.10 Letter from Denis Doyle, Board Chair for the KFL&A Board of Health to the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health for Health Canada re Comprehensive measures to address the rise of vaping in Canada
- 11.11 Letter from Gary McNamara, Chair of the Board of Health and Theresa Marentette, Chief Executive Officer, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Honourable Ginette Petitpas Taylor, Minister of Health for Health Canada re Restrictions on display and promotion of vaping products and the ban of flavoured e-cigarettes
- 11.12 Letter from Gary McNamara, Chair of the Board of Health and Theresa Marentette, Chief Executive Officer, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re The harms of vaping and next steps for regulation
- 11.13 Letter from Gary McNamara, Chair of the Board of Health and Theresa Marentette, Chief Executive Officer, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Removal of regulation 268 of the SFOA, 2017
- 11.14 Letter from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Display and promotion of vaping products
- 11.15 Letter from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Promotion and display of vapour products in Ontario
- 11.16 Letter from Janice Visneskie, Chair Board of Health for Renfrew County and District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re The Harms of Vaping and the Next Steps for Regulation
- 11.17 Toronto Star Letter to the Editor from C. Gardner re Should vaping products be regulated the same as cigarettes?



- 11.18 Notice from alPHa re Regulatory Changes for comment on the Ontario Regulatory Registry
- 11.19 Letter from Carmen McGregor, alPHa President to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term re Low Income Seniors' Dental Plan
- 11.20 Letter from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada re National School Food Program
- 11.21 Letter from Ralph Walton, Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services, Durham Region to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada re Notice of Motion - Opioid overdose Emergency Resolution
- 11.22 Letter from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Funding for Leave the Pack Behind
- 11.23 Letter from Larry Martin, Board Chair for Southwestern Public Health to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Expanding Alcohol Retail Outlets
- 11.24 Letter from Denis Doyle, Board Chair for the KFL&A Board of Health to Mayor Bryan Paterson and Council, City of Kingston re Municipal Alcohol Policies and Municipal Policy Options to Mitigate Alcohol Harms
- 11.25 Timiskaming Health Unit 2018 Annual Report
- 11.26 Grey Bruce Health Unit 2018 Annual Report
- 11.27 Thank you from Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Foundation for a donation in memory of a staff family member
- 11.28 Thank you from Women's College Hospital Foundation for a donation in memory of a staff family member
- 11.29 Letter from Megan Williams, Deputy Clerk for the City of Orillia to Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re Receipt of SMDHU Annual Community Report 2018-2019

**12. Date and Time of Next Meetings**

- January 15, 2020 - Barrie Office
- February 19, 2020 - Barrie Office

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02pm.

**Motion 13.0**

**MOVED BY S. Kinsella**

**SECONDED BY P. Preager**

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 12:02pm.

**CARRIED**

**ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Anita Dubeau

Chair, Board of Health

**ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Officer of Health