

**Board of Health
Minutes**

**January 20, 2021
9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Zoom Meeting**

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

Regrets: G. Harvey, R. Milne

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

1. Call To Order

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

1.1 Chair and Vice Chair Vote

C. Gardner assumed the role of Chair and asked for nominations for the Chair of the Board of Health for 2021.

A. Dubeau was nominated by L. Dollin and seconded by R. Cipolla. She accepted the nomination. No further nominations were received.

Anita Dubeau was acclaimed as Chair for 2021 for the Board of Health. A. Dubeau assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the Vice Chair for 2021.

R. Cipolla was nominated by A. Kungl and seconded by L. Oehm. He accepted the nomination. No further nominations were received. R. Cipolla was acclaimed as Vice Chair for 2021.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2.0

MOVED BY S. Cairns

SECONDED BY R. Cipolla

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 December 16, 2020.

Motion 4.1

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the December 16, 2021 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

5. In Camera

5.1 Approval of Minutes

The approval of the December 16th, 2020 Board of Health minutes were deferred to a future meeting.

6. Business Arising

6.1 Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit COVID-19 Update. Verbal Report. Dr. Charles Gardner presenting.

C. Gardner provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic noting that rates in Canada compared to the international trend. In Ontario, there has been a substantial increase of cases in the past month which is related to the holiday season.

It was discussed that local hospitals have received COVID-19 positive patients transferred from the Greater Toronto area to assist with their very high case load. RVH has now reached 60% occupancy in their ICU.

C. Gardner noted that mortality rates have increased in Long-Term Care Homes (LTCHs). The new variants of COVID-19 were discussed noting it is more contagious and may be affecting Roberta Place. SMDHU is currently awaiting test results on this matter.

There have been numerous facility outbreaks across Simcoe Muskoka and assistance/collaboration has been required to manage these.

Board members discussed the importance of marketing to get the message across to the public about the seriousness of the virus.

It was noted that Orders issued to businesses are now being posted on the SMDHU website.

Motion 6.1

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health receive this item as information.

CARRIED

- 6.2 COVID-19 Vaccine and Mass Immunization Planning. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner, Dr. Colin Lee and Mary Ann Holmes presenting.

C. Gardner provided an update noting that in partnership with the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH), the area's first COVID-19 Immunization Clinic was launched on December 22, 2020 at 29 Sperling Drive, Barrie. As of January 14, 2020, 9,340 staff in Simcoe Muskoka from LTCHs, Retirement Homes (RHs) and hospitals, along with essential caregivers of residents in LTCH and RHs have been immunized at this site.

In order to facilitate redeploying staff to the immunization clinic, resources have been shifted within the Clinical Service Department. MA Holmes is now the Acting Vice President of Clinical Service – Immunization Program with C. Nisbet as VP of the other programs within Clinical Service, as noted in the new organizational structure.

Board members discussed the requirements of the Pfizer vaccine and the current plan. MA Holmes noted that this plan has changed several times to accommodate the direction from the province. At this time first doses are not being administered to ensure that second doses can be completed. It was noted that it may be February when doses begin to arrive again in Simcoe Muskoka.

Motion 6.2

MOVED BY F. Pinto

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health receive this item as information;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health approve the new organizational structure in Appendix A.

CARRIED

- 6.3 Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program: One Year In. Briefing Note. C. Nisbet presenting.

Item deferred to the February 17, 2021 Board of Health meeting.

- 6.4 COVID-19 Extraordinary Funding. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg provided an update noting that SMDHU will receive an additional one-time funding from the Ministry of Health for the 2020-21 funding year to support extraordinary costs associated with monitoring, detecting, and containing COVID-19 in the province.

SMDHU submitted the COVID-19 Expense Form as requested by the Ministry on September 30, 2020 as part of the COVID-19 Extraordinary Funding process which included all costs associated to COVID-19 activities.

Motion 6.4

MOVED BY P. Willmott

SECONDED BY S. Cairns

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

CARRIED

- 6.5 2021 Cost Shared Budget and COVID-19 Schedules. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the draft 2021 Cost Shared budget, Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO), Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP) budget and the related COVID-19 Schedules based on direction received at the December 16, 2020 Board of Health meeting. This budget is based on the previously announced 2021 provincial funding, including mitigation funding and a 1.95% increase in the municipal levy, as well as a draw of up to \$250,000 from the agency reserve.

Operational costs were discussed noting that most items were held at a 0% increase with a few exceptions including Occupancy (rent and Midland office capital lease), Contracted Services, Insurance, Telecommunications and Technology. The agency has either experienced or anticipates pricing pressure on these items in 2021.

Board members discussed the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact it may have on the 2021 and 2022 budgets and inquired if there is any Ministry funding that may be available to offset the increase in salaries. K. Ellis-Scharfenberg noted that no communication has been received by SMDHU to date.

Motion 6.5

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY P. Koetsier

THAT the Board of Health approve the 2021 base budget for Cost-Shared Mandatory at \$36,607,933 reflecting a 2021 municipal levy of \$9,158,633 which represents an increase of 1.95% on the 2020 municipal levy;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health approve the draw of up to \$250,000 of the Public Health Contingency Reserve to implement several Information Technology solutions and to provide stability to the public health workforce in 2021;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health authorize the submission of the 2021 Annual Service Plan and Budget Submission reflecting the approved 2021 budget for Cost-Shared Mandatory and Related Programs.

CARRIED

7. Announcements

8. Items of Education

9. Items of Information

- 9.1 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario re Travel Restrictions from Areas of High Transmission to Areas of Low Transmission During COVID-19 Pandemic.
- 9.2 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier for the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Board of Health Reappointment Request.
- 9.3 Letter from the District Municipality of Muskoka to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario re Simcoe/Muskoka's Provincial COVID Alert Designation.
- 9.4 Email from the City of Toronto re Opioid Poisoning Crisis in Toronto - Update (Item HL23.2) (see Part 13 of the Board of Health's decision on page 3 which is addressed to Interested Parties).
- 9.5 alPHa Information Break – December 18, 2020.

10. Date of Next Meetings

- February 17, 2021
- March 17, 2021

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01am.

Motion 11.0

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY L. Dollin

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned 11:01am.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau

Chair, Board of Health

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Officer of Health