

**Board of Health
Minutes**

**August 19, 2020
9:15 am - 12:00 pm
Teleconference**

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

Regrets: S. Cairns, R. Milne

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

1. Call to Order

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

1.1 Past Board Member Recognition:

A. Dubeau recognized past Board of Health member, Peter Preager for his contributions.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2.0

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY A. Kungl

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 June 17, 2020.

Motion 4.1

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the June 17, 2020 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

5. In Camera

5.1 Approval of Minutes

5.2 Finance Issue

5.3 Finance Issue

Motion 5.0

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY F. Pinto

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the June 17, 2020 in camera minutes and two Finance issues.

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.1

MOVED BY G. Harvey

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

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

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.2

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY G. Harvey

THAT the Board of Health approve the award of construction of the Gravenhurst Dental Clinic Expansion renovation to WS Morgan for the pre-tax amount of \$187,000.

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.3

MOVED BY S. Warnock

SECONDED BY A. Kungl

THAT the Board of Health approve the establishment of a prequalified vendor list comprised of four denture providers:

- Highlands Denture Clinic (Bracebridge)
- Barrie Denture Clinic (Barrie)
- Alina Fainshtein Denture Clinic (Bradford)
- Jaroslaw Wojcicki Denture Clinic (Penetanguishene/Midland)

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

- 6.1 COVID-19: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Response and Activities. Briefing Note. C. Gardner, L. Simon, C. Nisbet and S. Rebellato presenting.

C. Nisbet provided an update of the agency's current activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic noting that although our case count is currently low, this does not underestimate the number of work still being done on a daily basis. The current focus is related to the reopening of schools and is quite time-consuming with hospital administrators and local physicians seeking guidance on this topic.

C. Nisbet highlighted the new COVID-19 ID Program which provides case and contact management, outbreak management as well as administrative tasks. As of August 14, 2020 a total of 669 cases of COVID-19 has been reported to SMDHU including 1,407 high-risk contacts and over the course of the pandemic 17 outbreaks have been managed.

The COVID-19 Business Continuity Plan (BCP) continues in its development in preparation for the Fall of 2020 and winter of 2021 in anticipation of subsequent waves in transmission.

C. Nisbet provided an overview of local partnerships including the LHINs, Ontario Health (ON) and Simcoe Muskoka Municipalities. These partnerships have been essential in making strategic decisions as well as representing our public health perspective at these tables. Planning for the pandemic with these partners on issues such as surveillance, testing, assessment centres and the implementation of our public health measures has been ongoing and vital to our operations.

The work of the Communication Team was discussed in regards to their ongoing efforts to keep the SMDHU website updated with relevant information, which has become a go-to website for members of the public, many community partners and the media. From January 24 to August 2, 2020, the website received a total of 685,522 page views to the COVID-19 website landing page, and over 1.3 million views to the HealthSTATS COVID-19 page. The Facebook live events (with YouTube postings) have been especially well received and in June and July, there was a peak of over 500 viewers to the Facebook live briefing.

Board members requested additional information regarding the hiring of Registered Nurses (RNs) for schools. It was noted that we anticipate funding for up to 20 RNs however greater clarity is needed from the Ministry. SMDHU is currently recruiting 5 positions at this time.

C. Shoreman discussed the back to school planning noting that SMDHU has been consulting with school boards. It was identified that the SMDHU School Health Program will be relocated to the Clinical Service Department to assist with the quick and efficient management of work related to outbreak management and mental health.

Motion 6.1

MOVED BY P. Willmott

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

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

CARRIED

- 6.2 2019/2020 Year-End Healthy Babies Healthy Children Reconciliation. Briefing Note. C. Gardner, C. Shoreman and K. Ellis Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the annual year-end settlement which has been reviewed by the SMDHU auditors and is required to be signed by the Board Chair by August 31, 2020.

It was noted that the Ministry has adjusted their fiscal year, and as a result we are reporting a 15-month period.

Motion 6.2

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health authorize the Chair to sign the certification for the 2019/2020 Year-end settlement with the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services for the SMDHU Healthy Babies Healthy Children program by the August 31, 2020 submission date.

CARRIED

- 6.3 2019 Ministry of Health Program-Based Grants Annual Reconciliation Report. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the year-end Certificate of Settlement which has been reviewed by SMDHU auditors and is required to be signed by the Board Chair. It was noted that submission of these documents to the Ministry were due at the end of July, however SMDHU received an extension until August 31, 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion 6.3

MOVED BY L. Oehm

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health authorize the Chair to sign the Ministry of Health 2019 Annual Reconciliation Report (Certificate of Settlement) for the 2019 year-end settlement.

CARRIED

7. New Business

- 7.1 Year-to-Date Financial Report for the Period Ending June 30, 2020. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the financial report for the period ending June 30, 2020 noting the extraordinary costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was noted that expenditures are in line with previous years, and at this time the Ministry has not approved any health units 2020 one-time funding requests.

Board members requested updated information on overtime costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. K. Ellis-Scharfenberg noted that regular schedules have been shifted to cover weekends as a strategy to reduce overtime and shift premiums.

Motion 7.1

MOVED BY S. Warnock

SECONDED BY P. Koetsier

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

CARRIED

- 7.2 Proposal for a Barrie Health Accord. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

C. Gardner presented the Barrie Health Accord proposal which is calling on partner agencies in the City of Barrie to endorse broad health promotion principles, and to work together over the next ten years in order to improve the health of the community by addressing the social determinants of health. It was noted that this proposal was recently submitted by Mayor Jeff Lehman to the County of Simcoe Council.

Board members encouraged the proposal to be altered to go beyond the City of Barrie and be more inclusive to the County of Simcoe and the District of Muskoka.

Motion 7.2

MOVED BY F. Pinto

SECONDED BY R. Cipolla

THAT the Board of Health support this item being deferred to the October 16, 2020 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED AS AMENDED

8. Advocacy

- 8.1 Funding Public Health Units during COVID-19. Briefing Note. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

C. Gardner discussed the extreme pressure that public health units (PHUs) have been under to respond to COVID-19 while attempting to continue to maintain critical public health programs and services. PHUs are projecting very large deficits at year-end as salary and operating costs to date have been well beyond a usual, non-COVID-19 year. The financial pressure has intensified the past few months as health units have not received approval of their 2020 Cost-Shared Grant or 2020 One-time Funding Grants from the Ministry. Also, details of how PHUs will access the COVID-19 Extraordinary Expenses fund and eligible expenses are still unknown.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg noted that the recent announcement of School-Focused Nurses for PHUs has added more complexity as health units are directed to initiate local planning and recruitment of nurses immediately, however, these positions are contingent on Ministry funding approvals with no date of when the approvals will be provided.

Motion 8.1

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health write to the Ontario Minister of Health urging the immediate provision of the funding allocations to local boards of health regarding the COVID-19 Extraordinary Expenses and for the School-Focused Nurses in order to enable a response by local public health units that is unobstructed by local financial shortfalls;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this letter be shared with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Boards of Health of Ontario, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, and with the municipal councils and MPPs in Simcoe Muskoka.

CARRIED

9. Announcements

10. Items of Education

11. Items of Information

- 11.1 Letter from Megan Williams, Deputy Clerk, City of Orillia to Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re SMDHU Board of Health 2020 Funding Notice
- 11.2 Email from Hugues Vaillancourt, Senior Director, Government of Canada to Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re

Correspondence sent to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau regarding the Basic Income Program

- 11.3 Letter from George Cornell, Warden for the County of Simcoe to Dr. Charles Gardner, MOH for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re Mandatory Face Coverings in Indoor Public Settings
- 11.4 Letter from Joe Faas, Board Chair for Chatham-Kent Public Health to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.5 Letter from Janice Visneskie Moore, Board Chair for Renfrew County and District Health Unit to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.6 Letter from Sue Perras, Board Chair for Porcupine Public Health to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.7 Letter from Mayor Andy Mitchell, Board Chair for Peterborough Public Health to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.8 Letter from Doug Elmslie, Chair, Board of Health for Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, Deputy Prime Minister and the Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.9 Email from Christopher Sargent, Coordinator, Clerk's Services for the Town of Collingwood to the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada and the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario re Support for Basic Income for Income Security during COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond
- 11.10 Letter from Warden Bill Weber and Dr. Sudit Ranade, Medical Officer of Health from the County of Lambton to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Clarification on Ministry's Criteria to Move to Stage 3 in the - Framework for Reopening Our Province
- 11.11 Letter from Janice Visneskie Moore, Board Chair for Renfrew County and District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of

Health and Long-Term Care re Endorsement of correspondence regarding the 2020 Municipal Cost Share of Public Health Funding from Eastern Ontario Health Unit and correspondence regarding COVID-19 and Reconsiderations Related to Public Health Modernization from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies

- 11.12 Letter from Doug Elmslie, Chair, Board of Health for Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Endorsement of correspondence regarding the 2020 Municipal Cost Share of Public Health Funding from Eastern Ontario Health Unit and correspondence regarding COVID-19 and Reconsiderations Related to Public Health Modernization from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies
- 11.13 Letter from Joe Faas, Board Chair for Chatham-Kent Public Health to the Honourable Patty Hadju, Minister of Health and the Honourable David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada re The Decriminalization of Personal Possession of Illicit Drugs
- 11.14 Letter from Janice Visneskie Moore, Board Chair for Renfrew County and District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Endorsement of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' Response to the Public Health Modernization Discussion Paper
- 11.15 Letter from Doug Elmslie, Chair, Board of Health for Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Endorsement of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' Response to the Public Health Modernization Discussion Paper
- 11.16 Email from Colleen Geiger, Acting President and CEO, Public Health Ontario re Public Health Ontario Leadership Update
- 11.17 alPHa 2019-2020 Annual Report
- 11.18 Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) 2020 virtual Annual Report
- 11.19 alPHa Information Break – June 26, 2020

12. Date and Time of Next Meetings

Date and Location of Next Meetings:

- September 16, 2020 – Barrie Office
- October 21, 2020 – Barrie Office

13. Adjournment

Motion 13.0

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY L. Oehm

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 11:10am.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau
Chair, Board of Health

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Charles Gardner
Medical Officer of Health