

**Board of Health
Minutes**

**November 18, 2020
9:15 am - 12:00 pm
Teleconference**

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

Regrets: F. Pinto

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

1. Call To Order

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

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 October 21, 2020.

Motion 4.1

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY G. Harvey

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the October 21, 2020 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

5. In Camera

5.1 Approval of Minutes

5.2 Facilities Issue

- 5.3 HR Issue
- 5.4 HR Issue

Motion 5.0

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY A. Kungl

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the October 21, 2020 in camera minutes and discuss one Facilities issue and two HR issues.

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.1

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY P. Koetsier

THAT the Board of Health come out of in camera and not report.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

- 6.1 Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Update and Organizational Structure Revision. Briefing Note and Presentation. Dr. Charles Gardner presenting.

C. Gardner provided an update of COVID-19 including the worldwide situation, the patterns and projections of Ontario in relation to other countries, and the present situation in Simcoe Muskoka.

The current status in Simcoe Muskoka and surrounding area was reviewed including the increase in rates in outbreaks in Long-Term Care Homes and schools. Work environments and home clusters continue to experience an increase in cases.

The Simcoe Muskoka dashboard and the provincial framework was reviewed noting that SMDHU is currently in the yellow protect designation. The projection of cases was reviewed noting large numbers are possible if cases are not brought under control. The current thresholds of the framework were discussed with C. Gardner noting that the public health measures in place in health units in the red zone are have been strengthened with MOH orders.

Board members discussed the increased risk of COVID-19 transmission with the upcoming holiday season, noting there was a 15% increase in cases following Thanksgiving.

Board members received an update on the current communications strategy and upcoming messaging including students returning from post-secondary institutions and strategies to avoid bringing COVID-19 home to their families.

C. Gardner highlighted the revisions to the organizational structure noting the addition of the COVID-19 Program. Board members requested clarification on costs incurred and if this new structure will remain in place post-COVID-19.

Motion 6.1

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY R. Milne

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

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health approve the new SMDHU organizational structure as documented in Appendix B.

CARRIED

- 6.2 COVID-19 Business Continuity Plan: Priority Activities. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Steven Rebellato presenting.

C. Gardner provided an update on the Business Continuity Plan as it relates to the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan continues to be flexible to account for changes in community transmission and responding to changing public health measures within the provincial COVID-19 framework impacting on community activities and businesses. It was noted that based on the trajectory of COVID-19 transmission in Simcoe Muskoka currently and in the future and the associated availability of staffing resources to support priority activities, activities may resume as soon as resources permit in 2021.

Board members reviewed the A level activities within the Business Continuity Plan that are being conducted and not conducted. Board members requested regular updates on this throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion 6.2

MOVED BY L. Oehm

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health receive this briefing note as information regarding the COVID-19 Business Continuity Plan and priority activities of Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.

CARRIED

- 6.3 Budget

- a. 3rd Quarter 2020 Financial Statement. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the third quarter financial statement which includes transactions from January 1 to September 30, 2020. These transactions are compared to the revised 2020 Budget approved

by the Board in June. The revised budget included an increase in COVID-19 related salary expenses offset by the assumed access to the \$100M announced by the Ministry of Health for COVID-19 Extraordinary Expense reimbursement.

Motion 6.3.1

MOVED BY P. Willmott

SECONDED BY S. Cairns

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

CARRIED

- b. 2021 Budget: Multi-Year Financial Projections. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented this item as SMDHU prepares future year cost and budget projections based on known factors and assumptions to create a frame of reference for the 2021 budget deliberations. The multi-year revenue and expense projections were highlighted which is part of the 2020 budget preparations.

Board members requested information on the potential costs of impending mass vaccinations.

Motion 6.3.2

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY L. Dollin

THAT the Board of Health receive the multi-year financial projections briefing note for information and for consideration during 2021 budget deliberations.

CARRIED

7. New Business

- 7.1 Health and Safety Annual Reporting. Briefing Note. Brenda Guarda, Brenda Hadley and John Tuinema presenting.

J. Tuinema presented the annual health and safety report highlighting the data of workplace concerns reported to SMDHU annually from 2016 to 2019. The most common incident types were also reviewed as well as the location of incidents.

It was identified that overall organizational safety has improved over time in the workplace. The 2019 accomplishments of the Joint Health and Safety Committee were highlighted.

Motion 7.1

MOVED BY G. Harvey

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

THAT the Board of Health receive the Health and Safety Report for 2019 as information.

CARRIED

- 7.2 Food Waste. Briefing Note. Dr. Lisa Simon, Carolyn Shoreman, Vanessa Hurley and Christine Bushey presenting.

C. Shoreman presented this item noting this was requested by a Board member for SMDHU to investigate whether diverting food waste to charity could reduce household food insecurity.

V. Hurley highlighted the agency's activities to date of past advocacy related to this topic. Basic income solutions were discussed as they relate to food insecurity. In Canada 58% of all food produced is either lost or wasted, valued at \$49.5 billion.

Board members discussed local initiatives occurring in their communities such as Gravenhurst Against Poverty (GAP) and requested clarification on local Tables such as the Simcoe County Food Council. C. Bushey provided an update on health unit representation throughout Simcoe Muskoka.

Board members requested communications be developed to provide the public with information on food waste. C. Gardner noted this could potentially be paired with our agency's climate change initiatives.

Motion 7.2

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY R. Milne

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

CARRIED

8. Announcements

9. Items of Education

10. Items of Information

10.1 Media Release from the City of Barrie re Barrie Health Accord.

10.2 Email from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health, the Honourable Marilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care and Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission re Support for COVID-19 Long-Term Care Reform.

- 10.3 Email from the City of Hamilton re Support for COVID-19 Long-Term Care Reform.
- 10.4 News Release from the Province of Ontario re Ontario Moves Public Health Unit Regions into COVID-19 Response Framework to Keep Ontario Safe and Open.
- 10.5 Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on her Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2020 re From Risk to Resilience: An Equity Approach to COVID-19.
- 10.6 Letter from Mitch Twolan, Board Chair for Grey Bruce Health Unit to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Federal Minister of Health and the Honourable Christine Elliott, Provincial Minister of Health re Municipal Drug Strategy Coordinators Network of Ontario, Safe Supply.
- 10.7 Letter from Carmen McGregor, alPHa President to the Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance re Fall 2020 Budget Consultations.
- 10.8 Report from alPHa re Budget 2020: Ontario's Action Plan: Protect, Support, Recover.
- 10.9 Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy. Pillar and Partnership Highlights.
- 10.10 alPHa Information Break – October 22, 2020.
- 10.11 Thank you note re donation in memory of a staff family member.

11. Date of Next Meetings

- December 16, 2020
- January 20, 2020

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58am.

Motion 12.0

MOVED BY L. Oehm

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 11:58am.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau

Chair, Board of Health

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Officer of Health