

**Board of Health**

**Minutes**

**May 20, 2026**

**9:16 am – 11:53 a.m.**

**Microsoft Teams / Mariposa Room  
15 Sperling Drive, Barrie L4M 6K9**

Chair: A. Kungl  
Board Members In Person: R. Cipolla, L. Oehm  
Board Members Virtual: B. Norris, H. Eves, J. Leduc, J. Smith, N. Nigussie, S. Cairns,  
S. Warnock, B. Stone, S. Read, T. Walker

Regrets: B. Gordon, S. Kinsella

Staff Present: L. Simon, K. Ellis-Scharfenberg  
Recorder: M. Nickason

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:16am.

- N. Nigussie joined the Board of Health meeting at 10:00 a.m. at item 6.1

1.1 Land Acknowledgement

A.M. Kungl read the land acknowledgement.

1.2 Welcome Kavin Qui, McMaster University Medical Student

A.M. Kungl welcomed K. Qui, McMaster University Medical Student.

1.3 SMDHU All Staff Day Event

A.M. Kungl, S. Warnock, B. Norris, L. Oehm and S. Kinsella attended the All Staff Day event on April 21, 2026.

The members shared positive feedback from the staff event and expressed their support and appreciation for the experience.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**Motion 2.0**

**MOVED BY** L. Oehm

**SECONDED BY** R. Cipolla

THAT the Board of Health approve the agenda as presented.

**CARRIED**

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was no declaration of conflict of interest.

**4. Consent Agenda**

4.1 Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2026

**Motion 4.0**

**MOVED BY** S. Cairns

**SECONDED BY** S. Read

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the April 15, 2026 Board of Health meeting.

**CARRIED**

**5. In Camera**

**Motion 5.0**

**MOVED BY** T. Walker

**SECONDED BY** H. Eves

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the one consent item and discuss one facilities item and one governance item.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.1**

**MOVED BY** B. Stone

**SECONDED BY** H. Eves

THAT the Board of Health come out of In-Camera and report.

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.2**

**MOVED BY** J. Leduc

**SECONDED BY** B. Norris

THAT the Board of Health approve a new 3-year lease with New Path Foundation for the SMDHU Orillia office within the Orillia Common Roof from October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2029

**CARRIED**

**Motion 5.0.3**

**MOVED BY** T. Walker

**SECONDED BY** S. Warnock

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

FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health support the submission of the letter in Appendix A to the Minister of Health requesting an extension of the term for the two board members wishing to continue on the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health.

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health support the submission of the letter in Appendix B to the Minister of Health, expressing support for the provincial appointment of one municipal board member to the Board of Health following their term on municipal council

**CARRIED**

Motion 5.0.3 - AM. Kungl, J. Smith and H. Eves abstained from the vote.

## 6. New Business

### 6.1 Year-to-Date Financial Report for the Period Ending March 31, 2026

Briefing Note. Dr. L. Simon and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg shared the briefing note to present the Board with the financial reports for the period ending March 31, 2026 for:

- Cost-Shared Mandatory Public Health Programs
- Ontario Seniors' Dental Care Program (OSDCP) and Healthy Babies Healthy Children 100% Funded Programs
- 100% Funded Projects

The Board sought clarity within Appendix A: Cost-Shared Mandatory Public Health Program budget lines as well as the contingency reserve draw approved by the Board at their February 18, 2026 meeting.

The Board discussed exploring Artificial Intelligence and Innovation projects to identify opportunities for future efficiencies and cost-savings.

#### **Motion 6.1**

**MOVED BY** L. Oehm

**SECONDED BY** H. Eves

THAT the Board of Health receive the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 1st Quarter 2026 financial reports for:

- Cost-Shared Mandatory Public Health Programs
- Ontario Seniors' Dental Care Program (OSDCP) and Healthy Babies Healthy Children 100% Funded Programs
- 100% Funded Projects

**CARRIED**

### 6.2 2026 alPHa Resolutions

Briefing Note. Dr. L. Simon presenting.

M. Ruf, Vice President Environmental Health Department joined the Board of Health for this item.

Dr. L. Simon presented the four Resolutions for consideration within the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) Resolutions package.

The Board held fulsome discussion on Resolution A26-03 *Mandatory and Regulated Alcohol Labelling on Alcohol Manufactured or Sold in Canada*.

Along with their support of the Resolution A26-03, the Board notes that education, public policy and other strategies are essential for reducing alcohol-related harms.

The SMDHU Alcohol Data Brief distributed to Mayors and Councils on April 15, 2026 received positive feedback and media coverage.

There are three Board members and several staff that will be in attendance to vote at the ALPHA Resolution session. The registered voting individuals will have the opportunity to bring friendly amendments on the floor. The Board and staff have no suggested amendments for the Resolutions to bring forward prior to the event.

**Motion 6.2**

**MOVED BY** B. Stone

**SECONDED BY** J. Smith

THAT the Board of Health receive this briefing note and the 2026 ALPHA Resolutions (in Appendix A) as information and for discussion to advise the Board of Health and staff members who will be attending the ALPHA conference.

**CARRIED**

6.3 Enforcement of the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017

Briefing Note. M. Ruf, K. Kivilahti and M. Kuhn presenting.

Dr. L. Simon introduced the item, sharing that it arose from discussion at the April 2026 Board of Health meeting.

Dr. M. Quaye joined the Board of Health for this item.

K. Kivilahti shared a presentation to outline the legislative context, collaborative enforcement (SMDHU, municipalities, businesses, property owners), key challenges and how SMDHU works to support the strengthening of smoke/vape free spaces.

With limited resources to enforce the Smoke Free Ontario Act (SFOA) throughout the Simcoe Muskoka region, a key focus of the program is working with schools and students. The Board was informed of the progressive enforcement steps that fall under the provincial offenses framework, beginning with educating.

Through school administrative partners, SMDHU promotes "Not an Experiment", a program developed by SMDHU and then expanded provincially, that provides tools and activities to open the conversation and protect students from the harms of smoking/vaping.

Simcoe Muskoka retailers undergo a youth test shopper program. Through progressive enforcement steps, smoke and vape product can be confiscated or a permanent prohibition ordered when retailers repeatedly sell product to people under the minimum legal age. Compliance in Simcoe Muskoka is typically high.

The SFOA and Enforcement program is in regular communication with municipal by-law partners and will follow up to provide clarity on enforcement roles and how SMDHU can support. A board member suggested that a resource for elected officials would be helpful to influence and promote self-management/visual cues for facility design and enforcement of smoke-free areas.

N. Nigussie exited the meeting at 11:45 and was not present to vote on Motion 6.3 and those thereafter.

**Motion 6.3**

**MOVED BY** S. Read

**SECONDED BY** R. Cipolla

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

**CARRIED**

## **7. Items of Education**

### **7.1 aPHa 2026 Conference & AGM**

Date: June 8 - 10, 2026

Registration sold out.

## **8. Items of Information**

### **8.1 Correspondence to and from SMDHU**

- a. Letter from Ann-Marie Kungl, Board of Health Chair, SMDHU  
to Mayors and Councils within the County of Simcoe, District of Muskoka, City of Barrie and City of Orillia  
  
Re: Alcohol Harms and Availability in Simcoe Muskoka
- b. Letter from Mark Signoretti, Board of Health Chair, Public Health Sudbury & Districts  
  
to the Honorable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health of Ontario  
  
Re: Endorsement of Algoma Public Health Position Statement on Infant Hepatitis B Vaccination
- c. SMDHU blog from Dr. Lisa Simon, Medical Officer of Health & CEO to staff  
  
Re: Next Chief Innovation Officer for SMDHU
- d. Letter from Tyler Campbell, General Manager of Community Well-Being, City of Greater Sudbury and Dr. M. Mustafa Hirji, Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Sudbury & Districts to partners  
  
Re: Community Drug Strategy for the City of Greater Sudbury Position Statement – Harm Reduction, A Key Component of a Comprehensive Substance Use Approach  
  
Re: Position Statement – Harm Reduction, A Key Component of a Comprehensive Substance Use Approach

### **8.2 aPHa InfoBreak**

- a. aPHa InfoBreak May/June 2026

**9. Announcements**

- Call for agenda items
- Board of Health evaluation due June 19, 2026

**10. Date of Next Meetings**

- June 17, 2026
- September 16, 2026

**11. Adjournment**

**Motion 11.0**

**MOVED BY B. Norris**

**SECONDED BY T. Walker**

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

**CARRIED**

**ORIGINAL Signed By:**

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Ann-Marie Kungl

Chair, Board of Health

**ORIGINAL Signed By:**

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Dr. Lisa Simon

Medical Officer of Health