

Communications Office

Peterborough County-City Health Unit
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www.pcchu.ca



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, April 13, 2011, Peterborough

Hiawatha First Nations Councillor Jill Smith Appointed to Board of Health



Hiawatha First Nation Band Councillor Jill Smith joined the Board of Health as its newest appointee during today's monthly board meeting at the Peterborough County-City Health Unit.

"We are delighted to welcome Councillor Smith to the Board of Health and are excited that she'll be helping us advance a number of public health priorities for the benefit of all local residents," said Andy Sharpe, Board Chair and Deputy Reeve of Havelock Belmont Methuen Township. "She brings a wealth of

health and community development experience and insights which will be of great value as we move forward."

Councillor Smith shared her enthusiasm about her new role. "As Health and Social Services portfolio holder for Hiawatha First Nation Council, I am excited about my recent appointment to the Peterborough County-City Board of Health," said Councillor Smith. "I look forward to representing Hiawatha First Nation on the Board of Health and working with the other board members."

A high-performing graduate of Trent University, Councillor Smith has focused her career on improving the lives of Aboriginal people in various capacities. She has contributed to the success of numerous organizations including the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution, United Anishnaabeg Councils Self-Government Ratification Committee, Peterborough Archaeology Advisory Committee, Ontario Métis Aboriginal Association and Nijkiwendidaa Anishnaabekwegag Services Circle.

In addition to her duties as a Band Councillor for Hiawatha First Nation, Councillor Smith currently works as the Administrator for the Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA). CORDA is funded by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Federal) and the Ministry of Natural Resources (Provincial). CORDA is a tripartite initiative between Federal, Provincial and First Nation governments that supports the economic development initiatives of First Nations people by providing financial assistance in the resource development and utilization of natural resources. She also serves as a volunteer on the Powwow Committee for Hiawatha First Nation's 17th Annual Powwow, taking place May 21-22, 2011.

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Among Ontario's 36 health units, the Peterborough County-City Health Unit is the only one with formal public health partnership agreements and representation from First Nations on its Board of Health.

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For further information, please contact:

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