

Board of Health Meeting Summary

September 14, 2011

Peterborough County-City
HEALTH UNIT
...because health matters!

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A Day in the Life – Public Health Inspector

Public Health Inspector (PHI) Jean Antoniak presented a typical work day in the field for each PHI conducting inspections related to safe water and the rabies program. She discussed the kinds of follow up and procedures involved with a poor water quality test result from a residential well, an unsafe swimming pool, and an animal bite from a potentially rabid dog.

Healthy School Grants Update

Anne Gallant, School Health Liaison, presented the types of projects funded through the Health Unit's Healthy School Grants program, as well as the criteria used to award funds. Projects must meet the Foundations for a Health School framework. This framework focuses on quality instruction and curriculum, healthy physical environments, a supportive social environment, and community partnerships. Last year the HSG program supported 11 elementary school projects and 17 secondary schools, impacting a total of 5,000 students and staff through Peterborough City and County. Grants supported a wide range of projects, including school gardens, a bullying prevention project through drama, and peer-led intramural programs.

Quarter 2 2011 Program Report and Financial Update

Larry Stinson, Director of Public Health Programs, presented the Health Unit's activity report for the second quarter of 2011.

Fluoridation and Municipal Water – Association of Municipalities of Ontario Workshop Update

Councillor Lesley Parnell and Deputy Reeve Andy Sharpe attended the fluoridation workshop at the recent Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference in London. All speakers reinforced how important fluoridating municipal water is to public health because it ensures everyone is protected. Experts on the panel noted that people who buy bottled water are starting to experience increasing rates of dental caries because they are not consuming fluoridated tap water. The board passed a motion requesting that the Medical Officer of Health develop a presentation on fluoridation that could be offered to all local councils.

Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) Update

Since the first local clients enrolled in the program on October 6, 2010, a total of 222 children and youth 17 years and under have received eligibility cards for services through HSO. A fundamental principal of the program is providing choice to local residents in their dental provider. A permanent downtown clinic (named the Community Dental Health Centre) opened in May 2011 at Peterborough Square. On June 24, 2011 the CDHC welcomed its first client, and since then 108 clients have received treatment there, most requiring more than one visit. The Community Dental Health Centre serves people with publicly-funded dental benefits, and currently there is a waiting list of 96 people. The mobile dental treatment bus arrived at the Health Unit on June 1, and testing of county locations where it can operate is being arranged (e.g. electrical and wireless hook-ups and clinical equipment). Two part-time dentists and dental assistants have been hired and the Health Unit continues to recruit more in order to increase operating capacity.

2011 Nursing Commitment

The Board approved funding received from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care of \$170,040 to support two new full-time public health nursing positions to address the social determinants of health. As of August 1, both positions have been filled, enabling the Health Unit achieve Ontario Public Health Standards associated with priority populations.

2010/11 Preschool Speech and Language Program Audited Statements

The Board approved the 2010/11 audited financial statements for the Preschool Speech and Language Program (PSLP). The PSLP is a regional partnership with the Five Counties Children's Centre, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and the Peterborough County-City Health Unit. Funds received from the Ministry of Children and Social Services (MCSS) are used to support a Family Health *line*. Parents who call in receive information on speech and language screening and referrals to community agencies.

Infant Toddler and Development Program Audited Financial Statements and Annual Program Expenditure Reconciliation, and Program Budget

The Board approved the 2010/11 audited financial statements and annual program expenditure reconciliation for the Infant Toddler and Development Program (ITDP). The program budget of \$242,423 was also approved. Funding for ITDP is provided completely by the MCSS and has not increased in ten years despite increasing costs.

Approval of 2011/12 Association of Local Public Health Agencies Membership Fee

The Board approved the annual 2011/12 membership fee for the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) of \$6,534.70. The Board also decided to encourage/request that alPHa seek increased opportunities to collaborate with others to share resources, improve cost efficiencies and reduce duplication in order to mitigate future fee membership increases.

June 2011 alPHa Conference Update

All resolutions developed by the Health Unit were accepted at the conference for future advocacy work by alPHa. These include:

- Call for immediate release of a comprehensive tobacco control strategy for Ontario
- Promoting public health in Ontario (province-wide branding campaign)
- Reducing barriers to the provision of public health services to Ontario First Nations

Accountability Agreement Update

The Accountability Agreement from the Ontario government has been signed by the Health Unit's board chair. Next steps include receiving details from the province about measurable performance indicators and values so the Health Unit can establish base line measurements this year.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 at Hiawatha First Nation

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Rosana Pellizzari
Medical Officer of Health

Deputy Reeve Andy Sharpe
Chair, Board of Health

Please contact Brittany Cadence, Communications Supervisor with any questions at bcadence@pcchu.ca or (705) 743-1000, ext. 391.