

**Board of Health for the
Peterborough County-City Health Unit
Minutes
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
10 Hospital Drive**

Present:

Board Members: Reeve Ron Millen (Chairperson)
Mayor Paul Ayotte
Councillor Henry Clarke
Councillor Jack Doris
Mr. Jim Embrey
Mr. Paul Jobe
Deputy Reeve Andy Sharpe
Deputy Reeve Madeline Pearson
Mr. David Watton

Regrets: Chief Keith Knott

Staff: Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Medical Officer of Health
Mrs. Linda Hughes, Executive Assistant
Mr. Tom Cathcart, Director, Health Protection
Mrs. Maureen McKeen, Director, Health Promotion
Mrs. Lorraine Skipwith, Director, Administrative Services
Dr. Dick Ito, Dental Consultant
Mrs. Ann Keys, Manager, Health Protection
Ms. Tracey Stevens, Dental Hygienist
Ms. JoAnne Leach, Dental Assistant

Media: Ms. Fiona Isaacson, The Examiner

1. Call to Order

Reeve Ron Millen called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

Reeve Millen informed Board members that at the end of the meeting they would be asked to comment on the new format for staff reports.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by
Councillor Clarke
That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Seconded by
Deputy Reeve Pearson

- Carried (M-08-52)

3. Presentation

Fluoride Update

Dr. Dick Ito, Dental Consultant, presented information on fluoridation of drinking water.

Water fluoridation is the controlled adjustment of the natural fluoride concentration in a public water supply up to the level recommended for preventing tooth decay. Many Ontario municipalities commenced water fluoridation in the 1950's and 1960's. The City of Peterborough began fluoridation in 1973. Canadian and American experts reviewed community water fluoridation, and the most important finding was that water fluoridation is not associated with any adverse health effects. Water fluoridation should be continued because it prevents tooth decay, it is cost-effective and it benefits everyone no matter the age or socio-economic status.

Mayor Ayotte requested a copy of Dr. Ito's report.

4. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by
Deputy Reeve Sharpe

Seconded by
Councillor Clarke

That the minutes of the Board of Health meeting held on June 11, 2008 be approved as circulated.

- Carried - (M-08-53)

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

Regulation of Retirement Homes

Following discussion it was

Moved by
Councillor Doris

Seconded by
Mr. Watton

1. That the Board of Health endorse the Durham resolution calling for prompt government action to introduce consumer protection legislation for retirement home residents no later than 2008; and
2. That the Board of Health communicate its position to the Premier of Ontario, Ministers Responsible for Seniors, Health and Long Term Care, Health Promotion, Municipal Affairs and Housing, Peterborough's MPPs, ORCA, and alpha.

- Carried - (M-08-54)

6. Correspondence

Moved by

Councillor Clarke

Seconded by

Deputy Reeve Pearson

That the following documents be received for information

1. Letter dated June 27, 2008 to Mr. Michael Batrie, Community Programs Manager, Ministry of Child & Youth Services from Reeve Ron Millen, Chairman, Board of Health regarding the Infant and Toddler Development Program budget for 2008-2009.
2. Letter dated August 14, 2008 to Reeve Ron Millen from the Honourable David Caplan, Minister of Health & Long Term Care advising of the approval of the 2008 Budget for public health programs and services.
3. Letter dated August 26, 2008 to Reeve Ron Millen from the Honourable Margaret, Minister of Health Promotion advising of funding for Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy Programming in the amount \$349,202.00.
4. Letter (received by fax on July 22, 2008) to Reeve Ron Millen from Cynthia Morton, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health Program advising of funding for the Peterborough Interprofessional Collaboration for Stroke Prevention in the amount of \$386,000.00.
5. Food Security Project:
 - Letter dated August 19, 2008 to Mr. Jeff Leal, MPP, Peterborough from Dr. Rosana Pellizzari, Medical Officer of Health expressing her gratitude to Mr. Leal for his personal support of the Food Security Project.
 - Letter dated August 1, 2008 to the Honourable David Caplan from Reeve Ron Millen requesting support for funding for the Food Security Project.
 - Letter dated July 31, 2008 to the Honourable David Caplan from Mayor Paul Ayotte, City of Peterborough requesting support for funding for the Food Security Project.
 - Letter dated July 31, 2008 to the Honourable David Caplan from Warden Ron Gerow, County of Peterborough requesting support for funding for the Food Security Project.
6. Letter dated June 23, 2008 to the Honourable David Caplan from Jeff Leal, MPP, Peterborough requesting that a Minister representative contact Dr. Pellizzari with respect to funding opportunities for the Idling By-law, and education and awareness initiatives.
7. Letter dated August 8, 2008 to Jeff Leal, MPP, Peterborough from Brenda Mitchell, Director, Environmental Health Branch in response to Mr. Leal's letter (#4).
8. Letter dated June 24, 2008 to Dr. Pellizzari from Glenn Girven, Clerk, the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen advising that funding was not approved for the septic inspection program on Jack Lake (letters MPP Jeff Leal and Ministry of Environment attached).

6. **Correspondence (Cont'd)**

9. Letters dated July 9, 2008 to Lorraine Skipwith, Secretary, Board of Health from Nancy Wright-Laking, City Clerk, City of Peterborough:
 - West Nile Virus
 - Report on Methadone Treatment

10. Letter dated August 18, 2008 to alPHa members from Linda Stewart, Executive Director, alPHa advising of the Resolutions session that will be held at the upcoming Niagara Public Health Summit in October

11. Resolutions:
 - Toronto Board of Health
 - Implications of the Proposed Provincial Cosmetic Ban for the Toronto Pesticide Bylaw.
 - 25-in-5 Network for Poverty Reduction
 - Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Public Health
 - West Nile Virus Program Funding
 - Durham Region
 - Grey Bruce Board of Health Resolution regarding HPV Vaccine
 - Grey Bruce Board of Health Resolution regarding rabies vaccine

- Carried – (M-08-55)

7. **Reports**

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Pellizzari reported that the Health Unit was essentially on track and moving forward.

Dr. Pellizzari informed Board members of the following:

- She is Co-Chair of the Performance Management Working Group. Data will be collected from all Health Units and a report will be issued early in 2009.

- Dr. Pellizzari has been appointed as a Public Health representative on the Provincial Maternal/Newborn Advisory Committee and Cancer Care Ontario's Board Committee on Prevention, Screening, and Population Studies.

7. Reports (Cont'd)

Medical Officer of Health (Cont'd)

The Ministry of the Environment has released its Toxics Reduction Strategy which includes legislation to ensure the reporting, by industry, of use and release of toxics. PCCHU staff will prepare a response to the document. This will be provided to the members of the Board of Health for their information.

Measles

Dr. Pellizzari commented on the great deal of effort and extra work that was involved in dealing with a suspect measles case. A measles outbreak did not occur.

Rabies

There has been a change in the provincial policy on vaccination following a review of the evidence. Persons who wake up to find a bat in the bedroom will no longer be recommended for rabies prophylaxis. Testing of bats will no longer be done routinely. There must be a history of direct exposure before vaccination is recommended. Messaging around bat exposure will be changed.

Sewage Disposal Program

The number of sewage system permits issued to date in 2008 is significantly lower than the number issued at the same time last year. If the number of permits remains low, the program will incur a funding deficit in 2008.

The situation will be monitored and if necessary measures will be taken to ensure that the program does not incur a shortfall in 2008. Outstanding lapsed permits will be closed and the portion of the deferred revenue will be adjusted to adequately cover operational requirements.

Listeria Contamination

The total number of cases of Listeriosis in Ontario has risen to 40. There have been two deaths in Peterborough – one confirmed case and one under investigation. Health Unit staff acted very quickly to ensure that all food premises did not have any of the suspected meat products.

Dr. Pellizzari distributed copies of an editorial to be published in the Canadian Medical Association Journal on October 7th, 2008. The editorial calls for a full-scale public inquiry into the major failings of Canada's food inspection system to protect Canadians from future epidemic threats.

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Moved by
Mr. Embrey

Seconded by
Mr. Watton

That the Medical Officer of Health's reports for the months of June, July & August 2008 be received for information.

- Carried - (M-08-56)

8. New Business

Tobacco Cessation

Moved by
Mayor Ayotte

Seconded by
Mr. Jobe

That the Board of Health:

1. request that the Minister of Health Promotion provide enhanced funding for local comprehensive smoking cessation programs in all public health units;
2. request that the Minister of Health Promotion make pharmacologic cessation aids available through all public health units year round, free of cost to all persons trying to quit;
3. request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care ensure that cessation medications are covered without restriction by the Ontario Drug Benefit Plan to those on Ontario Disability Support Plan and Ontario Works, and the working poor;
4. request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care ensure that nicotine replacement therapies (NRT) are available without prescription in retail outlets such as convenience stores;
5. request that the Federal Minister of Health re-institute comprehensive tobacco control funding and programming (i.e. cessation, protection and prevention) in First Nation communities; and
6. seek opportunities to support Curve Lake First Nation and Hiawatha First Nation in the development of strategies to address contraband tobacco sales.

- Carried – (M-08-57)

9. In Camera

Moved by
Mr. Jobe

Seconded by
Deputy Reeve Pearson

That the Board of Health go In Camera to discuss confidential matters.

- Carried – (M-08-58)

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Moved by
Councillor Clarke
That the Board of Health rise from In Camera.

Seconded by
Deputy Reeve Pearson

- Carried – (M-08-59)

Moved by
Councillor Clarke
That the Board of Health not approve the request from the Canadian Union of Public Employees to have the transportation allowance paid to employees re-evaluated.

Seconded by
Mr. Watton

- Carried – (M-08-60)

Moved by
Mr. Jobe
That a Building Condition Audit be conducted on the Health Unit's building at 10 Hospital Drive Peterborough.

Seconded by
Mrs. Pearson

- Carried – (M-08-61)

Moved by
Councillor Doris
That the Board of Health's Negotiating Committee conduct a Performance Appraisal on the Medical Officer of Health prior to the end of her probationary period of employment.

Seconded by
Deputy Reeve Sharpe

- Carried (M-08-62)

Moved by
Councillor Clarke
That the Board of Health approve new Board of Health policy:
Benefits, Short Term Disability Plan and Accumulating Sick Leave Plan, Early and Safe Return to Work.

Seconded by
Mr. Embrey

- Carried (M-08-63)

Moved by
Mayor Ayotte
That the Board of Health approve revised Board of Health policy:
Management, Coverage.

Seconded by
Mr. Embrey

- Carried (M-08-64)

10. **Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

The regular meeting of the Board of Health will be held on Wednesday, October 8, 2008 in the Board Room at 10 Hospital Drive or at the call of the Chairperson.

11. **Adjournment**

Moved by
Mr. Jobe
That the meeting be adjourned.

Seconded by
Mr. Embrey

- Carried - (M-08-65)

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Chairperson

Medical Officer of Health