

**Date: September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:36 a.m. | Location: 200 Rose Glen Road, Port Hope**

### **6. Medical Officer of Health Update**

Presenter: Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

#### Fall Respiratory Season Preparedness

In preparation for the Fall Respiratory season, Dr. Natalie Bocking shared four key points to support the community:

- Data Surveillance – which includes a Respiratory Illness Dashboard to be launched in September
- Preparedness Exercises with Partners – Simulated exercises performed with partners to prepare for scenarios where our health care system becomes overwhelmed. This has been completed with partners in Haliburton County, the City of Kawartha Lakes, and Northumberland County.
- Vaccination – Promoting, and hosting vaccination clinics and collaborating with pharmacies and primary care to ensure residents have access to vaccinations related to COVID-19, Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and Influenza.
- Public Education - which includes the Health Unit working on a promotional campaign to increase awareness regarding protecting yourself against respiratory illness.

#### Fall Respiratory Vaccine Landscape and 2024/2025 Fall Respiratory Vaccine Roll-out

Vaccines will be available at different times throughout the fall for the following respiratory viruses:

- COVID-19 – on September 17<sup>th</sup> Health Canada authorized the Moderna SpikeVAX vaccine which targets the KP.2 variant of COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccine will be made available throughout the fall via pharmacies, primary care providers, and the Health Unit.
- Influenza - the Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP) provides universal access to influenza vaccine in Ontario. When vaccine becomes available it will be provided to residents of Long-Term Care Homes first with subsequent roll-out to other high-risk populations followed by the general population.

RSV – in addition to the adult RSV vaccine program, the province has launched an updated program to protect infants and young children at high medical risk.

#### Other Infectious Disease Activity

General updates related to pertussis (whooping cough), Mpox, mosquito and tick-borne infections, and rabies virus were given to the Board of Health.

### Central East IPAC Hub

The Central East Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub provides support and builds capacity for IPAC in congregate settings (i.e. Long-term care homes, shelters, group homes, etc.). Funding was introduced during the COVID-19 pandemic, with the Central East IPAC Hub being hosted by Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) since 2020. This update included a notification that there will be a transition of hosting to Peterborough Public Health (PPH) and the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU) effective October 1, 2024.

### Back to School

The Board of Health was provided a summary of different health unit programs and services that have been launched to support students, educators, and families when school resumed this month. This includes school based immunization clinics for grade 7 students that will start soon (vaccines for Human Papilloma Virus (HPV), Meningitis, and Hepatitis B) and enforcement of the Immunization of School Pupils Act. Priority topics for the HKPRDHU School Health Team for this year were also highlighted, which include vaping prevention, mental health and wellness promotion, food neutral approaches to education, and prevention of common childhood illnesses.

*The complete update can be found [here](#) in the recorded meeting session, and the presentation can be viewed [here](#).*

## **7. Report**

Presenter: Meghan Bowman, Epidemiologist, presented the [Community Health Status Dashboard to the Board of Health](#).

The Community Health Status Dashboard is a suite of data driven dashboards that present local data related to infectious diseases, injuries, select chronic diseases, mortality and Statistic's Canadas' 2021 Census of Population. The dashboards enable presentation of multiple data points and indicators in a single visual (age, sex and geography) making it easy to see trends and differences. The information provided from the dashboards is important in communicating information and risks, provide population health information to the public, community and partners, engage in knowledge exchange activities regarding factors that determine the health of the population, and more. The various data dashboards provided by HKPRDHU can be found online and are accessible to the public.

*The full presentation can be read [here](#) or watched [here](#), and the dashboards can be found online [here](#)*

## **8. New Business**

### Support for Guaranteed Basic Income

Presenter: Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

The Board of Health endorsed that a letter of support for Bills [S-233](#) and [C-223](#) “An Act to develop a national framework for a guaranteed livable basic income” be sent to the Prime Minister of Canada, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Minister of Health, House Leaders, Standing Senate Committee on National Finance, and local Members of Parliament.

*The letter of support can be read [here](#).*

### Board of Health Q2 2024 Summary

Presenter: Dr. Bocking, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

The Board of Health received a summary of the Q2 2024 Board of Health Quarterly Report for Programs and Services. [The Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability \(Standards\)](#) outline the minimum requirements that boards of health must meet for mandatory health programs and services.

*The summary report can be read [here](#)*

### Corporate Services Updates

Updates from Corporate Services were provided to the Board of Health regarding People and Culture, with an announcement that a new Workplace Respect Policy will replace both the workplace violence and workplace harassment policies. The Workplace Respect Policy will provide clear guidance and clarity about how the organization should respond to complaints. The Code of Conduct Policy has also been updated and will be circulated to the Board for approval via email shortly. The policy will be introduced to employees in October. Updates related to Finance Operations and a Summary of August 2024 Finances were also shared with the Board.

*The full summary can be read [here](#), and viewed [here](#)*

## **10. Correspondence**

The following correspondence were shared with the Board of Health for information:

[OPHS Review Response](#)

[Dispositions of Resolutions 2024](#)

[Ontario Enhancing Tools to Help People Prepare for Respiratory Season](#)

# Meeting Summary

---

## Board of Health

### **Date of Next Meeting**

October 17th, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm, Haliburton Office, 191 Highland Street, Haliburton.