

**HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
April 15, 2021**

**M I N U T E S**

The meeting was convened by Mr. Elmslie at 9:30 am via Microsoft Teams.

Those in attendance were Messrs. Elmslie, Cane, Crate and Henderson, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Richardson, Dr. Bocking, Mrs. Vickery, Mrs. Tremblay, and Mrs. Dickson.

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Mr. Henderson

Seconded by Mrs. Brown

THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

2021-50  
carried

**2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

None

**3. ADOPTION OF REGULAR MINUTES**

Moved by Mrs. Roberts

Seconded by Mr. Crate

THAT the regular minutes of the Board of Health meeting held on March 18, 2021 be approved and signed electronically.

2021-51  
carried

**4. BUSINESS ARISING**

None

**5. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH UPDATES**

Dr. Bocking shared that during her first week at the Health Unit she has been focusing on core business, COVID-19 activity, internal meetings with staff, as well as external meetings with stakeholders and partners, and of course the many Ministry meetings related to the pandemic response. Dr. Bocking will continue with communication strategies, she will host her first media scrum next week.

## **Public Sector Salary Disclosure**

The Health Unit reported 17 employees who earned over \$100,000 in 2020; three more than the figure reported for 2019. Salary can include regular wages, overtime, and retroactive payments from prior years.

## **Section 22 Warning Letters and Charges**

Forty-four warning letters and two tickets have been issued between January 1<sup>st</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to cases and contacts of COVID-19.

Cases and contacts are obligated to participate in contact phone calls with the Health Unit so their progress can be monitored and to ensure they are maintaining isolation or quarantine. As per the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, cases who are required to isolate and contacts who are required to quarantine, as identified, and who do not do so can be charged and fined up to \$5,000 per day.

## **COVID-19 -General Update**

Over the last week there has been a significant increase in new cases in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU) area. This, in addition to the rollout of mass immunization clinics has stretched human resources and capacity quite thin.

As of yesterday, there have been 1,412 cases across the jurisdiction with 180 cases currently active (10 in Haliburton, 46 in the City of Kawartha Lakes, and 124 in Northumberland). Each case comes with high-risk contacts and with the current active cases, there are between four and five hundred high-risk contacts identified.

In the last 14 days there have been 264 new cases and the seven-day incidence rate is 90 per 100,000 cases (doubled in the last week). If we were not already in a provincial lockdown, we would be in the red, if not grey zone. The age group with the highest proportion of new cases is under 20; successful vaccination efforts in the older population and the changing dynamics of virus transmission could account for this. Fifty percent of new cases did not have an identifiable transmission source. Five are currently hospitalized and in the ICU. The test positivity rate has increased to 2.6% over the last week.

We have been streamlining workflow so we can reach incoming cases as they are identified. Changes in practice has been made in order to prioritize work. These changes are not unique to the HKPRDHU, even provincial support services that assist with contract tracing are overwhelmed.

We continue to be on track with mass immunization clinics. As of April 12<sup>th</sup>, 30,052 COVID-19 vaccines have been administered by us or our partners. A total of 38,415 have been administered to residents of HKPR, which is a reflection that some people received their immunizations outside of our jurisdiction or at a pharmacy. We are running five mass immunization clinics and the Ross Memorial Hospital is operating one.

The number of pharmacies in the area that are receiving vaccine has increased to 16 and there are a number of primary care teams we are working with to have them administer AstraZeneca to their patients. There are seven primary care teams that will begin to offer Astra Zeneca to their patients this week or next.

All residents in long-term care homes have received their first and second doses (coverage rate 85%) as have residents of high-risk retirement homes (coverage rate 88%). Sixty-five percent of retirement homes have received their first dose and second doses are pending.

We continue to be affected by the supply issues that are affecting the entire province. There are significant delays in receiving Moderna. A shipment expected on April 19<sup>th</sup> has been delayed until April 29<sup>th</sup>. When shipments are delayed it creates a significant amount of work for staff to reconfigure clinics to ensure that we do not cancel appointments. We were expecting 5,800 doses per week of Pfizer, but have been advised, that starting next week, that amount will be reduced to closer to 3,500 per week. As the demand increases, the supply is actually decreasing. The province is trying to expand eligibility, which contributes to the pressure on health units and partners (increase demand and insufficient supply). In a couple of months it will be a different situation, but for now we are still in an era of vaccine shortage.

The Provincial Booking System is functioning, but there are challenges, especially for residents that are not online. There is no flexibility for health units to go onto the system and change anything.

We are at a critical point in the pandemic. We are trying to use resources to administer vaccine and also for virus containment (case and contact management). We know that the rolling out of vaccine in the long run will be a big part of the solution in changing the trajectory of the pandemic.

Moved by Mr. Henderson

Seconded by Mrs. Richardson

THAT the MOH Updates be received for information.

2021-52  
carried

## **6. REPORTS**

There was no presentation this month due to the unavailability of staff.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 Direction from the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services –  
Early Intervention Services for Children and Families: 2021-22 Service Delivery  
Expectations

Moved by Mr. Crate

Seconded by Mrs. Roberts

THAT the Board of Health receive direction from the Ministry of Children,  
Community and Social Services to restore service delivery in the Healthy Babies  
Healthy Children and other early intervention programs, and Dr. Bocking's service  
delivery plan for information.

2021-53  
carried

7.2 Q4-2020 Board of Health Quarterly Report for Ontario Public Health Standards:  
Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability

Moved by Mr. Crate

Seconded by Mr. Cane

THAT the Q4-2020 Board of Health Quarterly for Ontario Public Health Standards: 2021-54  
Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability be received for carried  
information.

7.3 Q4-2020 Board of Health Quarterly Report (COVID-19)

Moved by Mrs. Richardson

Seconded by Mrs. Roberts

THAT the Q4-2020 Board of Health Quarterly Report on COVID-19 activities be 2021-55  
received for information. carried

7.4 Operating Statements

Moved by Mr. Crate

Seconded by Mr. Cane

THAT the draft non-audited Operating Statements for the three-month period ending 2021-56  
March 31, 2021 in the amount of \$5,446,285 be received for information. carried

**8. BUSINESS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Elmslie advise Board Members to contact Mrs. Dickson if they are interested in  
attending the virtual alPHa Conference on June 8, 2021.

**9. CORRESPONDENCE**

Seconded Mrs. Richardson

Moved by Mrs. Brown

THAT the following correspondence be received and filed: 2021-57  
carried

- Budget 2021 - alPHa Summary
- alPHa Information Break

**10. IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Moved by Mrs. Roberts

Seconded by Mrs. Richardson

THAT the Board of Health move in-camera to review the minutes from the March 2021-58  
18, 2021 closed session. carried

Moved by Mr. Crate	Seconded by Mr. Cane	
THAT the in-camera session be dissolved, and the membership return to the Board of Health.		2021-59 carried

Moved by Mrs. Roberts	Seconded by Mrs. Brown	
THAT the in-camera minutes from March 18, 2021 be approved and signed electronically.		2021-60 carried

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Health will be held virtually on May 20, 2021.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Cane	Seconded by Mr. Crate	
THAT the meeting be adjourned. The meeting adjourned at 10:27 am.		2021-61 carried

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Chair

\*\*\*approved May 20, 2021\*\*\*

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Recorder