

Date: December 7, 2023 | Time: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m. | Location: Dalewood Golf & Country Club

5. Business Arising

5.1 Update from Joint Board Merger Exploration Working Group

Mr. Marshall advised members that the Joint Board Merger Exploration Working Group had its first meeting on November 16th. The Working Group is comprised of three members each from the HKPR District Health Unit and Peterborough Public Health, along with both Medical Officers of Health, and both Directors of Corporate Services.

Representatives from Sense & Nous, the consulting firm that is conducting the feasibility assessment, attended the November 16th meeting to review the process with the Working Group.

Since the November 16th meeting, the consultants have facilitated engagement sessions with both Chairs and Medical Officers of Health and are in the process of engaging employees from both health units, in addition to collecting information about assets and liabilities.

The next meeting of the Working Group will be held on December 13th in Peterborough.

5.2 Zonnic Nicotine Patches

At the November 16th Board of Health meeting, staff were directed to prepare a letter to advocate to Health Canada for regulations around nicotine pouches as they can currently be sold anywhere and to any age group.

Since November 16th, Canada's Health Minister has pledged that action will be taken to remediate the lack of regulation.

The full article regarding the Minister of Health's pledge can be found [here](#).

6. Medical Officer of Health Update

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

Dr. Bocking provided an update on the 2023/24 respiratory season to date. Since the beginning of September, there have been 31 COVID-19 outbreaks, 39 hospital admissions and 13 deaths attributed to COVID-19 across HKPR region. There have been 12 lab-confirmed cases of influenza to date this season across HKPR region.

Dr. Bocking provided the following key messages:

- If you haven't already, get your flu and COVID-19 immunizations
- Stay home if you're sick
- Wear a mask in crowded indoor settings if:
 - You are at high risk of developing severe illness; or
 - You are recovering from a respiratory illness
- Wash your hands often, cover your cough

7. Report – Nurse Family Partnership, Parenting Philosophy, and Baby-Friendly Initiative Training

Presenters: Tammy Thomson, Reese Merlin, and Brianna Barker, Public Health Nurses in the Healthy Families Department

Nurse Family Partnership

The Nurse Family Partnership program is an evidence-based home visiting program for young first-time parents experiencing social or economic disadvantage. Through the partnership program, the relationship between the Public Health Nurse and the parent begins in early pregnancy and continues until the child's second birthday.

The program aims to improve pregnancy outcomes, improve child health and development, and improve parents' economic self-sufficiency. The full presentation on this program can be found [here](#).

Parenting Philosophy

Positive parenting promotes healthy attachment between a caregiver and child. The Health Unit collaborates with local partners in health and other sectors to promote and support parenting strategies that foster positive relationships between caregivers and children.

Through an environmental scan, meetings with partners, and individual client consultation, a [parenting philosophy](#) has been developed to support a consistent family-centered approach to parenting programs throughout the counties of Haliburton and Northumberland, and the City of Kawartha Lakes.

The two key approaches in the philosophy are strength-based and family centered, and the values are trust, partnership, and family first.

In addition to the above reports, the Board received their annual [Baby-Friendly Initiative training](#).

8. New Business

8.2 2024 Budget

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

Dr. Bocking presented the Health Unit's 2024 budget to the Board of Health. The Board of Health approved the 2024 budget in the amount of \$22,378,169.

Dr. Bocking's full report can be found [here](#).

For the complete meeting details, please see the [agenda package](#) or view our video recording [online](#).

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday, January 18, 2023, 9:00am – 11:00am, Lindsay Office, 108 Angeline Street South, Lindsay.