

Date: January 18, 2024 | Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. | Location: 108 Angeline St. South, Lindsay

4. Election of Officers

The Board of Health elects its Chair and Vice-Chair at its inaugural meeting of each year. Mr. Marshall, Provincial Appointee, was acclaimed as the Chair, and Dr. Hankivsky, Mayor, Port Hope, representing Northumberland County, was acclaimed as the Vice-Chair for 2024.

8. Business Arising - Update from Joint Board Merger Exploration Working Group

Mr. Marshall, Chair, Board of Health, provided the Board with a brief update from the last Joint Board Merger Exploration Working Group meeting and Dr. Bocking provided an update on Indigenous engagement. Mr. Tony Yu, Lead Consultant, Sense & Nous, joined the meeting virtually to give an update and answer questions regarding the merger exploration work that his firm has been hired to do.

To watch the full update and question and answer period, please visit the [Health Unit's YouTube channel](#).

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 44 COVID-19 outbreaks, 78 hospital admissions and 17 deaths attributed to COVID-19 across the HKPR region. There have been 111 lab-confirmed cases of influenza and 7 hospital admissions to date this respiratory season.

Dr. Bocking advised the Board of Health that enforcement of the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* (ISPA) is underway. Provincial legislation requires that documentation of immunizations, or a valid exemption, be submitted to health units for every student between the ages of 4 and 17. As of June 2023, there were more than 7,000 students who were either overdue for immunization, or whose records required updating. Since that time notices were sent to parents/guardians and many responded to update their children's records; however, as of January 5th, 1,357 students in Grades 3 and 9-12 still have outstanding records and will be suspended as of February 5th if they do not meet the ISPA requirements.

The Health Unit has made more clinics available, will be accommodating walk-ins, and will have more people available to answer questions in an effort to assist parents/guardians in getting their children's immunizations/records up to date.

Key Messages:

1. **CHECK:** Check your child's immunization record for any missing vaccines.
 - Go to the [Immunization Connect Ontario \(ICON\) website](#) or contact the Health Unit.
2. **VACCINATE:** Ensure your child receives any missing vaccinations or has a valid exemption.
 - Contact your health care provider or the Health Unit to book an immunization appointment.
3. **UPDATE:** Update your child's immunization record with the Health Unit.

10. Report

2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan Program Update

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

Dr. Bocking provided the Board of Health with an update on the strategic objectives under the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan – Lead, Partner, and Deliver.

The complete update, which includes actions and progress, can be found [here](#).

11. New Business

Corporate Services Updates:

Presenter: Matthew Vrooman, Director, Corporate Services

Mr. Vrooman shared the following updates:

- Preparations for collective bargaining with ONA and CUPE in Q2-2024 is underway.
- The Health Unit's 2023 Accessibility Compliance Report, attesting to compliance with the requirements under the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disability Act*, has been filed with the province.
- Finance is preparing for the annual external audit, which is scheduled to take place in March. The Audited Financial Statements will be presented to the Board of Health in June or July.

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

Date of Next Meeting

February 5, 2024, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Lindsay Office, 108 Angeline Street South, Lindsay.