



Services de santé du
TIMISKAMING
Health Unit

RECOVERY AND BEYOND



2022
Annual Report

timiskaminghu.com

Land Acknowledgement

for Timiskaming Health Unit Catchment Area

We respectfully acknowledge that the Timiskaming Health Unit operates within the Robinson-Huron Treaty, Treaty 9 and unceded Indigenous territory, specifically within the traditional territories of Beaverhouse, Matachewan, Temagami and Timiskaming First Nations. Today these lands encompass communities with enduring presence of Algonquin, Anishnabai, Ojibwe, Cree, and Métis Peoples.

We acknowledge that original peoples have been stewards and caretakers of these lands and waters since time immemorial and acknowledge that they continue to maintain this responsibility for generations to come.

With honour and respect, we say miigwetch to the original peoples and affirm our commitment and responsibility to reconciliation.



Mobilizing for Recovery

Since early 2020, Timiskaming Health Unit (THU) has been responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. This has required extraordinary effort and sacrifice by staff as, together with our communities, we navigated uncertain times. At THU, there were intense periods with almost all staff involved in either case, contact, and outbreak management, vaccination, and/or providing support and information to various sectors and the public on prevention and protection guidance, which evolved as the virus and pandemic progressed. Supporting these efforts was data analysis and epidemiological reviews, communications, stakeholder updates, and the upgrading of technology supports.



"THU endeavors to live up to achieving our vision of healthy communities where everyone can thrive."

Dr. Glenn Corneil (AMOH/CEO)

Throughout 2020 and 2021, established THU programs and services were adapted, and many were reduced or paused all together. In 2022, staff at THU turned their attention to beginning a path to recovery. This meant balancing ongoing COVID-19 pandemic response activities while resuming efforts for key public health programs, services, and new priority areas.

Guided by our public health mandate and our strategic plan, along with our knowledge of community strengths and gaps, staff identified programs and services to restore and resume. Our recovery dialogue also encouraged space for reimagining longer-term actions for a transformed and resilient local public health agency. It is also important to note that the well-being and rejuvenation of staff and their own recovery was top of mind.

This 2022 annual report highlights actions of a highly professional, dedicated, and resilient team at THU. We would also like to acknowledge the crucial role our Board of Health leadership, community partners, and members play in the success of public health initiatives. Through ongoing collaboration on important initiatives and the delivery of key programs and services while maintaining a robust response to threats to public health, THU endeavors to live up to achieving our vision of healthy communities where everyone can thrive.

For more detailed information on program activities, various reports to our Board of Health members, please visit our [website](#).

Dr. Glenn Corneil

Acting Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer

Carrying On Public Health Priorities During a Pandemic

Local public health priorities not only include the prevention and control of infectious diseases but other complex issues, such as: promoting mental health, preventing substance use and related harms, and addressing factors that drive health inequities. These inequities shape the ways power, money, and resources are distributed in society, stigma and discrimination, health adaptations to climate change; as well as supporting babies, their families, youth, and seniors to achieve and maintain optimal health.

While local public health resources continued a focus on prevention and control of COVID-19 in our community, Timiskaming Health Unit continued to provide essential and priority public health programs and services.

2022 initiatives spanning multiple topics and programs included the following:

- Created a Board of Health briefing note and public communications campaign on public health issues influenced by government policy decisions timed with the provincial and municipal elections in 2022. These campaigns also highlighted the importance of voting.

[Provincial Election Campaign](#)

[Municipal Election Campaign](#)

- Created and distributed *Public Health Matters* a health care provider newsletter highlighting resources and tools to support key public health issues.
- Created and distributed a Municipal Newsletter (Fall 2022 edition) highlighting local opportunities for municipalities to affect the health and well-being of their communities.
- Profiled the role of local public health by celebrating **Canada's First Canadian Public Health Week** (April). This included external social media posts recognizing our diverse local public health workforce and their contributions to THU's vision of healthy communities where everyone can thrive.

Let's make public health in Timiskaming matter during the 2022 municipal election

Municipalities influencing health

Members of municipal council play an important role in shaping the health and well-being of our communities. Municipalities can develop policies and provide facilities, programs, services and emergency management that influence the health and well-being of our population and make our communities great places to live where everyone can thrive.

Which each person has the opportunity to achieve their full health potential, our community becomes strong, healthy, and vibrant – a great return on investment.

Let's make public health in Timiskaming matter during the 2022 municipal election.

Why public health is important

Timiskaming Health Unit, one of 34 local public health agencies in ON, provides programs and services that promote well-being, prevent disease and injury, and protect population health. As highlighted with the COVID-19 pandemic, we also work to enable injury, respiratory, safe, and effective response to, and recovery from emergencies with public health systems. Our work, often done in collaboration with local partners and within the broader public health system, results in a healthier population and avoids draining on costly and scarce health care resources.

We strive to provide residents and decision-makers with information to make knowledgeable decisions related to the health and well-being of our population and communities.

This municipal election, [our goal](#) is that municipal candidates and voters consider the following important local public health issues.

Public Health Matters
A Newsletter for Health Care Professionals

Issue 18 Spring 2022

Public Health Matters

We hope you find the newsletter a useful way to learn about public health issues and services. Your feedback is welcome.

If you have any comments or questions, please email info@timiskaming.ca

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Appendix A
Timiskaming Health Unit 2021 Local Diseases of Public Health Significance

Health Care Provider Alerts and COVID-19

For current and archived this issued health care provider alerts including those related to COVID-19 please visit dsh.ca/alerts/notifications

UPDATES: Infectious Diseases Excluding COVID-19

Respiratory Surveillance: Influenza Activity in Ontario

Public Health Ontario's (PHO) most recent respiratory laboratory surveillance data for week 12, 2022 (March 20, 2022 to March 26, 2022) indicates that overall influenza A and B activity in Ontario remains low. The 48 influenza lab confirmed cases (Influenza A) reported in Week 12 was higher than the number reported in Week 11 (21). Timiskaming Health Unit area is reporting influenza activity as of week 12. Provincially, Influenza/Bronchiolitis was the most common circulating non-influenza respiratory virus, with provincial percent positivity at 6.9%.

Source: Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin 23, Public Health Ontario

PHO monitors and analyses the spread and intensity of respiratory pathogen activity and influenza in Ontario. The Ontario Respiratory Pathogen Bulletin (ORPB) is a comprehensive, weekly summary of provincial respiratory pathogen activity, including information on the onset, duration, circulation, geographic patterns, severity and progression of seasonal influenza activity.

See the graphs below for weekly percent positivity surveillance for influenza and all respiratory pathogens.

Board of Health Briefing Report

To: Chair and Members of the Board of Health
Date: March 4, 2022
Topic: 2022 Provincial Election Campaign
Submitted by: Dr. Glenn Cornell
Contributors: Kerry Schubert-Mackey, Amanda Morgan

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Timiskaming Board of Health receive the report "2022 Provincial Election Campaign" for information.

Overview

- The provincial election is happening on June 2, 2022.
- Policies within provincial jurisdiction impact the health and well-being of individuals and communities in the Timiskaming Health Unit District.
- Local public health agencies conduct programs and services that promote well-being, prevent disease and injury, and protect population health.
- Voting influences policy decisions that impact population health and well-being.
- Voting and related activities are forms of civic engagement which is known to impact health.
- This brief aims to inform the Board of Health of the potential impact of the provincial election upon local public health as well as Timiskaming Health Unit's upcoming provincial election campaign.

Ontario Public Health Standards (2018) and Timiskaming Health Unit Strategic Plan 2019-2023
This work contributes to meeting requirements and expected outcomes in the Ontario Public Health Standards (2018). Addressing social determinants of health and health requires align with the Policy Framework for Public Health Programs and Services including interacting with numerous program standards. This work also supports the following 1942-2022 strategic direction:

We create, share and exchange knowledge

- We use the best available information, including local-level experience, to inform local programs and services.
- We exchange information with communities and partners to increase our understanding of local needs.
- We create quality tools, evidence-based knowledge and to identify changing local needs.
- We share our knowledge with stakeholders to understand the issues and needs of health hospitals.

We collaborate with partners to make a difference in our communities

- We work with public and private organizations with community partners to improve public health.
- We build stronger and more community-relevant or addressing the social determinants of health and create change in local health systems.
- We advocate for policy changes that make a difference in local communities.

Behind the Scenes

of Essential Public Health Work

To ensure THU programs and services are responsive to our area’s current needs and evolving issues, staff work to provide the best available data, tools, and processes to support decisions. In 2022, staff with expertise in population health assessment and planning and evaluation collected, monitored, analyzed, and shared data summaries and reports related to COVID-19, 2 community foodborne illness outbreaks, opioids and other substance-related harms and a variety of other topics in 2022.

Supported a process to prioritize the resume and restore work, including acknowledgement of the backlog, supported data gathering, and synthesis for internal and collaborative.

Other key accomplishments addressing local public health priorities during the 2022 year of recovery are organized by program area below.



Oral Health and Vision Program

The oral health team at THU screened nearly 900 students in schools and at the THU office in 2022. In the academic year 2022-2023, the staff will return to schools across the district. Despite being unable to conduct vision screenings in JK/SK classes in 2022, the vision team will resume activities in 2023.

The Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program continued to increase its capacity to provide free routine dental care as the pandemic response shifted in 2022. We maintained partnerships with local oral health providers in the community, and qualifying seniors from all district areas received care. In 2022, 251 individuals applied for the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program. **In total, 883 seniors received dental care within the Timiskaming district, 197 received care at THU offices, and 686 obtained services from community providers.**



Healthy Growth and Development

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) Program adapted and maintained the blended home-visiting program in 2022. Family Home Visitors (FHVs) and Public Health Nurses (PHNs) completed 498 home visits across the district. In August of 2022, daily visits to Timiskaming Hospital were resumed at full capacity, 5 days a week. These visits allow the PHNs to complete a post-partum HBHC screening, assist families with breastfeeding and discuss services at THU and within the community.

Perinatal Mood Disorder (PMD) screenings resumed at full capacity in May 2022. PMD screenings are offered to each family in the prenatal and post-partum periods. They aim to identify parents who may be experiencing signs and symptoms of perinatal depression or anxiety. Referrals to community programs are then able to be completed if needed.

Over 700 well-baby visits were provided by PHNs in the Healthy Growth & Development Program.

Over 700 well-baby visits were provided by PHNs in the Healthy Growth & Development Program. These visits reach children aged 0 to 6 years and offer services such as immunizations, weights, and developmental screening.

Car seat inspections continued to be offered throughout the district. Twenty-six inspections were completed in 2022 and a Winter car seat communications campaign was launched in December.

Breastfeeding remained a priority for THU in 2022, initiatives included:

- The breast pump program;
- The Timiskaming Breastfeeding Buddies Facebook group;
- Prenatal breastfeeding education;
- Lactation consultation support, with 15% of families having received at least one consultation.

School and Childcare Health

As schools and Childcare Centres continued to adjust to the changing pandemic landscape and its related impacts, many of which are long-term, THU staff provided ongoing support in a variety of health topics such as mental health, healthy sexuality, healthy eating, and physical activity. Staff attended school council meetings, provided resources for parents and caregivers ahead of the start of kindergarten, and strengthened relationships with school boards.



- Maintained partnerships through participation in regular meetings with Directors of Education, school COVID-19 Leads and school transportation providers.
- Participated in DTSSAB-hosted meetings with childcare providers and regularly communicated with individual schools to respond to questions and provide resource materials related to COVID-19 measures and other infectious/reportable diseases.
- Coordinated the implementation of the School Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program, collaborating with Porcupine Health Unit to develop and evaluate [Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program Activity Calendar, Fact Sheets & Recipes](#), and [Implementation Guide](#).
- Supported the Active School Travel (AST) program, including school-wide activities, accessing funds for bicycle racks at 2 schools, a [Walk n Roll Project in the Town of Englehart](#), creation of outdoor AST banners at 3 schools, and 1 school with creating a [School Pick-up Planner](#).
- Adapted and promoted a [Prom Toolkit](#) with local secondary schools and parents/caregivers and supported 5 local secondary schools with implementing [Youth Mental Health and Addictions Champions](#) program, adapted an updated progressive enforcement toolkit for use in enforcing the [Smoke-Free Ontario Act](#), and provided schools with [resources to support tobacco use prevention](#).

Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-Being

As part of our pandemic recovery work, we focused on the built environment, road safety, active travel, healthy aging, and mental health promotion.

- Launched [Walk 'N Roll Timiskaming website](#) and a communications strategy using [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#), and developed and published a bilingual video series on cycling and pedestrian safety starring local elementary school students: [Pedestrian Safety 101](#) and [Bike Safety 101](#). The 2022 Community Bike Exchange was successful again this year and engaged high school students in Temiskaming Shores, as seen in this [video](#).
- Supported the [Healthy Eating in Recreation Settings Project](#), a children's cooking camp in Temiskaming Shores, which carried out education sessions to local youth on eating well on a budget, and participated in a [panel discussion](#) on food insecurity among rural seniors.
- Promoted mental health through awareness campaigns and, as part of the focus on [workplace mental health](#) organized and sponsored [Mental Health First Aid](#) training for workplaces and certified THU staff in Psychological Health and Safety.

Substance Use and Injury Prevention

In this program area, we focused on mental health, prevention of high-risk substance use and prevention of injuries related to substance use.

- Co-chaired and provided backbone support for the Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy (TDAS).
- Led planning and communication related to both the Prevention and Harm Reduction Pillars of TDAS, participated in the Communications Working Group, and supported the Persons with Lived and Living Experience group.
- Increased access to sharps disposal sites, passed a resolution to support the [Decriminalization of Substance Use](#) and launched the [Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy](#).
- Supported tobacco cessation by providing [nicotine replacement therapy vouchers](#) to community members and referring to provincial resources such as [STOP On the Net](#), Telehealth Ontario, Smoker's Helpline, and local STOP programs at local Family Health Teams as well as implementing several communications campaigns to raise awareness.
- Supported concerned physicians and other community partners to launch a campaign to renew advocating for safer highway measures through Temiskaming Shores on Highway 11.
- Developed and shared [Evidence and Promising Practices for Lowering Speeds on Municipal Roadways](#), an evidence-based report on safer systems approach to road safety.
- Supported healthy aging by hosting [Stand Up](#) training, implemented a Fall Prevention Month communications campaign, delivered [Fall Prevention Month](#) presentations, hosted a [Stay on Your Feet](#) booth at the Age Friendly Fair, and supported [Timiskaming Rising Stars](#) troupe promotion and recruitment.
- Supported the creation of a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan for Timiskaming, including the municipality of Temagami.

Health Equity - Health for All

The following section highlights local public health work in 2022 toward reducing health inequities, so everyone has equal opportunities for optimal health and well-being. Root causes of inequitable opportunities for health are linked to our social and structural systems, and many of these were exacerbated by the pandemic.

- Our COVID-19 prevention and control program supported a local First Nation Control Group, high-risk settings were prioritized for prevention and control support. The COVID-19 vaccine program worked with First Nations and Urban Indigenous communities, and priority populations.
- We continued the implementation of the COVID-19 Timiskaming Connections Volunteer Line, including providing support to those who were required to isolate until March 2022.
- Chaired the COVID-19 Timiskaming Collaborative, whose aim is to prevent or mitigate health and well-being disparities due to COVID-19 and related response measures.
- Continued to lead the Closing the Digital Divide project addressing digital inequity by distributing devices and supports for Internet access and supported community partner initiatives to address digital equity.
- Established People with Lived and Living Experience Committee to inform the development of the Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy.
- Consulted with First Nations community leaders and local Métis council for the development of THU's first iteration of a land acknowledgement.
- Provided staff education on the impact of colonialism and of the social determinants of Indigenous health and the work of reconciliation as well as education on culture as a social determinant of health, racism, gender identity and expression and sexual orientation.
- Increased awareness of income and food security issues, paid sick days, housing, affordable oral health care, digital equity, and racism through external communications.

Research Project: *Identifying enabling supports and structures that will strengthen response to future disruption:* THU is a knowledge user role in a research project to support municipalities in Northern Ontario with populations less than 10,000 and their associated local public health units in learning from the COVID-19 pandemic and identifying ways to strengthen and prepare for future emergencies.

Knowledge Exchange Spotlight: THU staff participated in the Northern Directions Conference (North Bay), hosted by the Northern Policy Institute and the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation. THU staff co-authored and participated in a panel titled [Re]Framing Healthy and Resilient Communities and on the final day presented Connexions Timiskaming Connections: Learning from COVID equity measures to increase community resilience, describing work done in Timiskaming to mitigate equity related impacts of the pandemic and foster learning to reduce the impact of future emergencies.

Immunization – Vaccine Safety and Vaccine Administration

COVID-19 Vaccine Program

The importance of COVID-19 vaccinations and the pandemic remained a priority for most of 2022.

Regular communication continued through social and traditional media while building on partnerships with community organizations helped to reach specific populations. Communications focused on eligibility and addressing vaccine hesitancy. The communications strategy was data-focused, using evidence related to vaccine hesitancy and confidence and adjusting according to local vaccine uptake by age group, geography, and other factors. In the spring, we saw an enhanced investment in targeted strategies to reach youth under the age of 30, which included youth [Q&A video series with the Acting MOH](#).

Other COVID-19 vaccine program highlights:

- The COVID-19 vaccine campaign opened booster doses for the 60+ population, including First Nation and Métis individuals and their non-Indigenous household members 18 years of age and older (April 2022). We ramped up local clinics to help support vaccinating this group.
- In April 2022, booster doses for children 6 to 11 years of age became available.
- We supported Bear Island with COVID-19 vaccinations (May 26, August 30, and November 4). Influenza was also offered at the November 4 clinic.
- Moderna became available as the first product for children under 5 in August. The Pfizer pediatric product was available in September 2022.
- The bivalent booster dose was available in October. We saw an increase in attendance at the fall COVID-19 vaccination clinics.
- The Pfizer pediatric COVID-19 vaccine was made available to children aged 5 to 11 on December 20, 2022.
- COVID-19 vaccine clinics continued weekly throughout 2022 for New Liskeard and Kirkland Lake offices. Mid-year, clinics in Englehart moved to monthly. In July and August, we offered pop-up clinics in smaller locations (Cobalt, Virginiatown, Larder Lake, Elk Lake, and Earlton).
- 17,541 doses were administered in 2022 through THU.

Routine Immunizations

On top of continuing to navigate through the COVID-19 pandemic, routine immunizations also remained a high priority at THU. Routine vaccinations continued in office throughout 2022 through our general intake clinics, well baby clinics and in-office school-based clinics. On the first Tuesday of every month, in-office evening clinics for New Liskeard, Kirkland Lake, and Englehart resumed in December 2022.

Other routine vaccination program highlights:

Travel Health Consultations

Office	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Kirkland Lake	272	259	210	208	109	0	78
New Liskeard	595	620	695	611	324	64	340
Englehart	<i>(Included in New Liskeard Statistics)</i>						

Note: KL staff remained redeployed to COVID-19 work and did not see any tropical travellers between Jan. and Mar. 2022.

Immunization Program

Immunizations Administered in Office	NL	KL	ENG	Total 2022
# of clients receiving immunizations	876	391	116	1,383
# of immunizations administered	1,380	644	198	2,222

Note: These numbers do not include Influenza Vaccine Generated from PANORAMA-R07090 Immunization Administered or Wasted at Health Unit.

School Health Immunization and Licensed Childcare

School clinics were held for routine immunization in the fall of 2022, including offering catch-up doses. We continued to work closely with local schools and parents to ensure student immunization records were up-to-date. Due to the pandemic and capacity, THU did not enforce the ISPA (Immunization School Pupils Act) in 2022. However, we did work with a few families and completed 2 ISPA virtual sessions for those requesting a non-medical exemption. THU was able to maintain good momentum in the Childcare program throughout 2022. We continued to support and collaborate with licensed Childcare Centres for immunization monitoring. In 2022, efforts to update and modernize the Childcare process initiated pre-covid resumed.

For the 2021-2022 school year, 28 immunization clinics took place in-schools for grade 7 and 8 students. The school-based program included the hepatitis B vaccine (HBV), meningococcal vaccine and the human papillomavirus vaccine (HPV). High school booster clinics for routine and catch-up vaccinations were offered in 5 high schools within our district.

Number of HBV, meningococcal & HPV doses administered to students (September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2022)	
HBV to students in grade 7-8	354
Meningococcal vaccine in grade 7-12	230
HPV vaccine to eligible students in grade 7-12	429

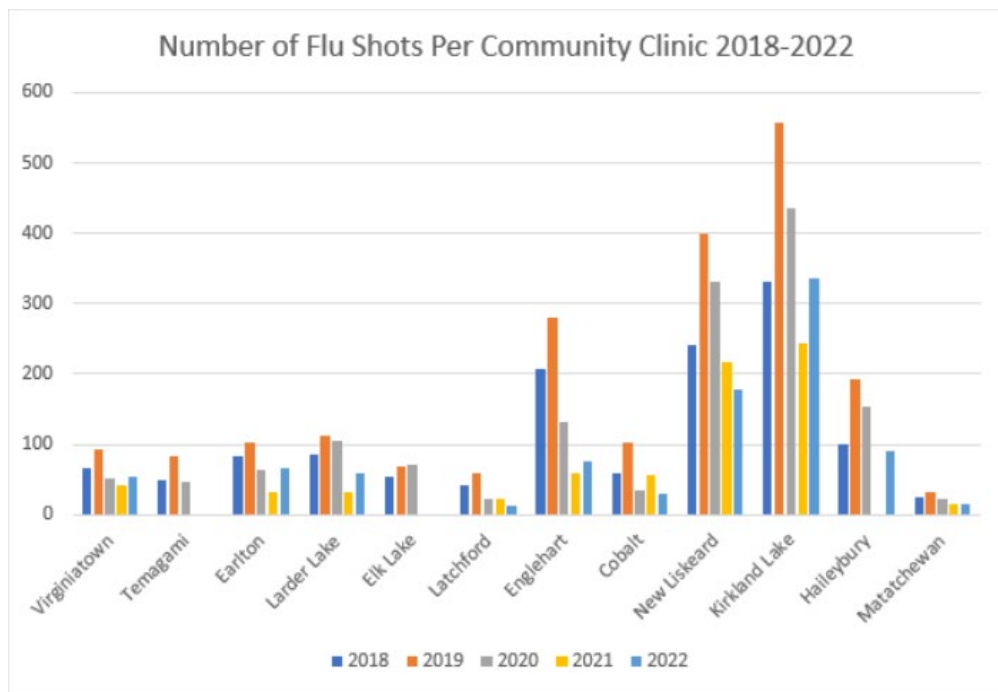
2021-2022 Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP)

Community flu clinics were modified to work in conjunction with the COVID-19 vaccination clinics. We continued to offer influenza and COVID-19 vaccines at our regular venues, the first hour of the clinic offered COVID-19 vaccines, and the latter part offered influenza. Clients were encouraged to book appointments online through the provincial booking system or by calling THU’s booking line.

Other routine vaccination program highlights:

- Communications on our influenza program went out via social media, and posters were distributed throughout the district. We also relied on provincial and national media coverage to help promote the importance of the influenza vaccine this year.
- Participating pharmacies and primary care providers contributed to the influenza campaign this year, making the vaccine accessible to everyone including homebound clients.
- We offered in-office appointments for clients requesting this service.
- Our local pharmacies administered over 2,900 influenza vaccines in 2022 (October to December).

Note: Missing data, Temagami & Elk Lake ran their own clinics in 2021 & 2022 and there was no clinic venue for Haileybury in 2021)



Plans for 2023 - Recovery and Moving Forward

As we look ahead to 2023, we will continue to work on COVID-19 vaccinations, provide immunization clinics for routine and travel vaccines, and support health care providers with cold chain inspections and vaccine storage and handling. We will resume regular internal vaccine-preventable disease meetings and ISPA processes. During the 2023 fall campaign, we plan to emphasize the importance of all vaccines through our communication plans and include influenza and COVID-19 vaccines.

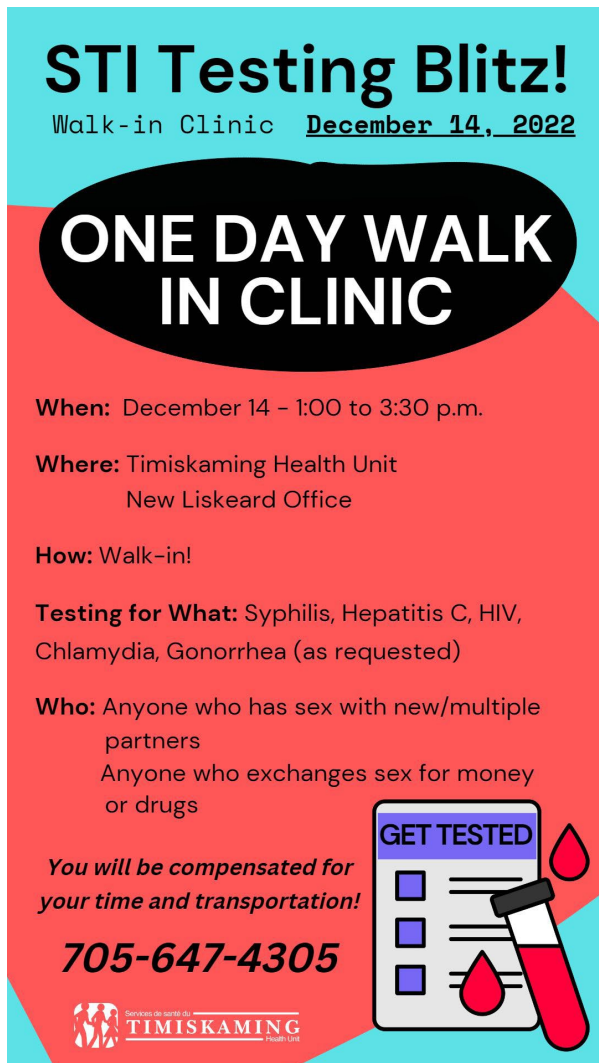
Infectious Disease & Clinical Services

Sexual Health Program

THU offices across our district completed 111 tests for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) and 11 pap tests for individuals under 25 years of age in 2022. Besides confidential HIV testing, we offered clients free condoms, affordable contraception, and Emergency Contraception Plan B, which was provided to 13 clients in 2022. As a result of OHIP+ (2018), there was a decrease in demand for contraceptives for clients under the age of 25 at THU. At 437, the number of clients seen in 2022 is lower than in previous years. Through pandemic recovery plans, we aim to focus more on our priority populations and increase outreach initiatives.

Needle Exchange and Harm Reduction Program

The Timiskaming Health Unit's Harm Reduction Distribution Program is designed to ensure that people who use drugs can access sterile injection equipment and safer inhalation kits to reduce the incidence and prevalence of HIV, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and other harms. An increase in encounters has been noted from the previous year as public health measures changed throughout the pandemic. We have seen an increase in encounters with the Needle Exchange Program and other Harm Reduction supplies (308) compared to 2021 (207). Resuming services and increasing our messaging in the community and on various social media platforms likely account for the increase.



STI Testing Blitz!
Walk-in Clinic December 14, 2022

ONE DAY WALK IN CLINIC

When: December 14 - 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Where: Timiskaming Health Unit
New Liskeard Office

How: Walk-in!


Testing for What: Syphilis, Hepatitis C, HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhoea (as requested)

Who: Anyone who has sex with new/multiple partners
Anyone who exchanges sex for money or drugs

You will be compensated for your time and transportation!

705-647-4305

GET TESTED



TIMISKAMING
Health Unit

Instagram Story for Sexual Health clinic

OVERDOSE PREVENTION

- Do not use alone. If you are using alone, call someone and keep them on the line or try the National Overdose Response Service at 1-888-688-NORS (6677)
- Test a small amount first and go slow
- Avoid mixing different types of substances
- Carry a naloxone kit. You could reverse an overdose. You could save a life.

Pick up a free naloxone kit at Timiskaming Health Unit, CMHA and most pharmacies.

Social media post

Environmental Health

Land Control - Sewage System & Property Development

A busy year for septic systems

The Timiskaming Health Unit enforces the provisions of the Building Code Act as they relate to sewage systems with a flow rate of 10000 litres per day or less. The Code and Guide for Sewage Systems govern the requirements for design, construction, operation, and maintenance of various classifications of sewage systems located within properties.

Throughout the pandemic, the construction and maintenance of sewage systems remained a priority function and continued with no pauses. In the beginning of the pandemic, this activity slowed down and fewer permits were issued. However, 2022 had an 18% increase in permits issued over 2021 and had the highest number of permits issued since 2015.

18%
increase in permits
issued in 2022



A typical class 4 septic system under construction

Safe Food Program

Options for Food Handler Training

In 2022, our Public Health Inspectors continued to increase inspections of food premises. Moving forward in 2023, our regular inspection schedule will return to standard rotation. As part of the safe food program, we ensure people have access to food handler training programs. This training can be completed through online courses, of which we provide information to people on how to access them. The training can also be done through in-person courses offered by the Timiskaming Health Unit.

During the pandemic, we had to re-direct our resources and online courses had to be the main avenue; this was also the case in 2021. In 2022, we began offering in-person courses once again and will continue with that in 2023. Providing options of online and in-person courses ensures those who need the food handler training can access it.

Food Handler Certifications

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Englehart	63	26	23	75	58	3	24	10
New Liskeard	90	68	144	351	182	19	55	29
Kirkland Lake	70	41	58	127	15	34	5	12
TOTAL	223	135	225	553	255	56	84	51

Safe Water Program

A good year for Small Drinking Water Systems (SDWS)

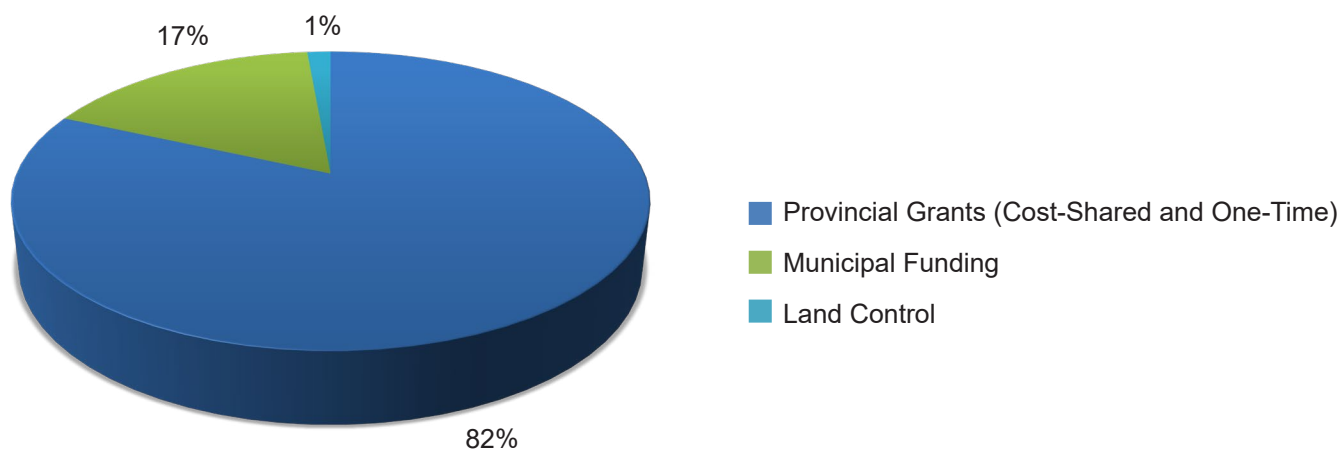
If your business makes drinking water available to the public and you do not get your drinking water from a municipal drinking water system, you may be an owner or operator of a small drinking water system. These systems are inspected on a rotating basis by our Public Health Inspectors. During 2020 and 2021, this area had minimal activity due to pandemic constraints. In 2022, we were pleased to re-focus a great deal of attention in this area and were able to complete a massive catch-up, allowing the rotation schedule to get back on track. **Thirty-six inspections were completed, the highest amount done annually since 2019.** This program will continue with its regular rotation in 2023.



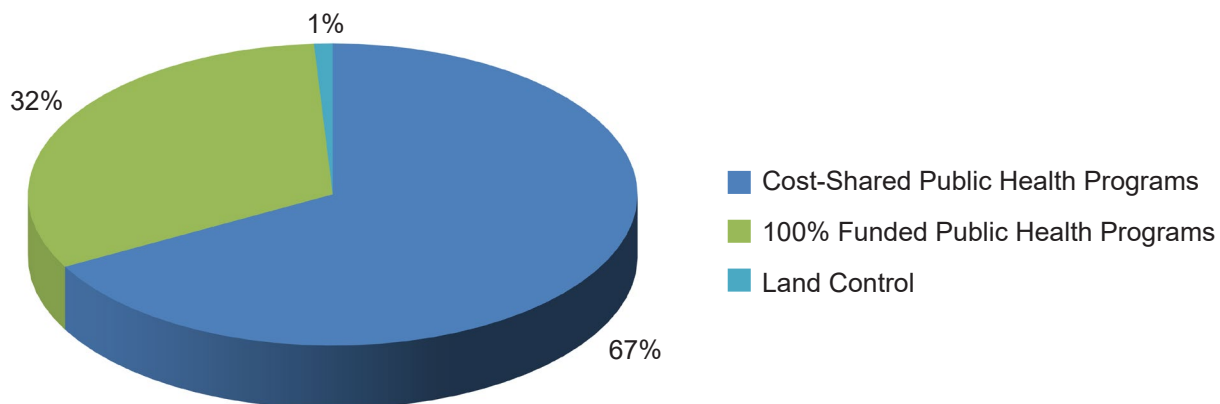
Pictured above is an example of a SDWS

2022 Budget

Total Revenues



Total Expenditures



2022 Board of Health

Carman Kidd, Chair - City of Temiskaming Shores

Patrick Kiely, Vice-Chair - Town of Kirkland Lake

Nina Wallace - Towns of Englehart, Charlton, Townships of Chamberlain, Evanturel, Hilliard & Dack

Paul Kelly - Township of McGarry/Gauthier & Town of Larder Lake

Casey Owens - Town of Kirkland Lake

Sue Cote - Towns of Cobalt and Latchford, Municipality of Temagami, and Township of Coleman

Jesse Foley - City of Temiskaming Shores

Vacant - Townships of Armstrong, Hudson, James, Kerns & Matachewan

Vacant - Townships of Brethour, Harris, Dymond, Harley and Casey, Village of Thornloe

Mike McArthur - City of Temiskaming Shores

Curtis Arthur - Provincial Appointee

Office Locations

New Liskeard

247 Whitewood Avenue, Unit 43

705-647-4305

1-866-747-4305

Englehart

63 Fifth Street

705-544-2221

1-877-544-2221

Kirkland Lake

31 Station Road

705-567-9355

1-866-967-9355

For more information contact:
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New Liskeard, ON P0J 1P0
Telephone: 705-647-4305
Toll-free: 866-747-4305
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