

## MINUTES

# Timiskaming Health Unit Board of Health

Regular Meeting held on April 3, 2024 at 6:30 PM

THU NL Boardroom / Microsoft Teams

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1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**Board of Health Members**

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Stacy Wight     | Chair, Municipal Appointee of Kirkland Lake ( <i>video</i> )  |
| Jesse Foley     | Vice-Chair, Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shore ( <i>video</i> )  |
| Mark Wilson     | Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shores  |
| Jeff Laferriere | Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shores  |
| Curtis Arthur   | Provincial Appointee ( <i>video</i> )   |
| Carol Lowery    | Municipal Appointee for Town of Cobalt, Town of Latchford, Municipality of Temagami, and Township of Coleman ( <i>video</i> ) |
| Paul Kelly      | Municipal Appointee for Township of Larder Lake, McGarry & Gauthier ( <i>video</i> )  |
| David Lowe      | Provincial Appointee  |
| Steve McIntyre  | Municipal Appointee for Township of Armstrong, Hudson, James, Kerns & Matachewan ( <i>video</i> )                             |
| Casey Owens     | Municipal Appointee for Town of Kirkland Lake ( <i>video</i> )  |
| Todd Steis      | Provincial Appointee  |

**Regrets**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Gord Saunders | Municipal Appointee for Township of Chamberlain, Charlton, Evanturel, Hilliard, Dack & Town of Englehart |
| Guy Godmaire  | Municipal Representative for Township of Brethour, Harris, Harley & Casey, Village of Thornloe           |
| Cathy Dwyer   | Provincial Appointee   |

**Timiskaming Health Unit Staff Members**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Dr. Glenn Corneil | Acting Medical Officer of Health/CEO                |
| Randy Winters     | Director of Corporate and Protection Services       |
| Rachelle Cote     | Executive Assistant                                 |
| Erin Cowan        | Director of Strategic Services and Health Promotion |

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION #26R-2024**

Moved by: Jeff Laferriere

Seconded by: Jesse Foley

Be it resolved that the Board of Health adopts the agenda for its regular meeting held on April 3, 2024, as amended with the following addition:

10c – Medical Care Transportation (Mr. Lowe)

CARRIED

4. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE**

None.

5. **PRESENTATION: SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC DATA FOR THU**

Presenters: Celine Butler, Epidemiologist

Angela Osei, Epidemiologist

Staff presented an overview of the sociodemographic data for the Timiskaming district. The presentation is available [here](#).

Celine and Cristina left the meeting room at 6:53 pm.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #27R-2024**

Moved by: Mark Wilson

Seconded by: David Lowe

Be it resolved that the Board of Health approves the minutes of its regular meeting held on March 6 and March 25, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED

Mr. McIntyre stated that an option to obtain a recorded vote for certain discussions be available moving forward. The comment was noted by Chair Wight.

7. **BUSINESS ARISING**

None noted.

8. **REPORTS OF MOH/CEO**

Dr. Corneil provided a summary of the local situation and other related updates;

- The province recently confirmed a COVID-19 spring booster campaign for eligible persons of +65 yrs and those with an underlined medical condition. The vaccine will be available at THU and participating pharmacies. Messaging underway. The majority of the population will get to participate in the fall booster campaign.
- Measles: no increase post March break. The THU immunization team was successful in obtaining +80% in vaccination rates through the booster campaign.

- Solar eclipse: provincial messaging have been distributed to schools and have been attending standby emergency department meetings.
- James Bay standard flood evacuation: discussed the Town of Kirkland Lake potentially receiving evacuees over the next week. THU taking part in meetings for role of food inspections and risk of infectious diseases.

9. **HUMAN RESOURCES & FINANCE UPDATE**

Randy Winters provided an update for information purposes.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **PHU-THU Merger Update**

Dr. Corneil provided the following update:

- A BOH special meeting was held on March 25, 2024.
- The merger application was submitted to the ministry on April 2, 2024, and including all the applicable motions.
- The board composition motion was not carried at the Porcupine Health Unit, due to loss of quorum, therefore this part of the application was not complete. The motion is to be revisited at their next meeting, end of April.
- Working to distribute a summarized copy of the merger application to all members.
- Now awaiting the ministry formal decision. Hoping for a quick decision in order to move forward with the merger transition work.

b. **Briefing Note: Gender-Based and Intimate Partner Violence**

**MOTION #28R-2024**

Moved by: Jeff Laferriere

Seconded by: Mark Wilson

Be it resolved that the Board of Health:

1. Endorse the Public Health Sudbury and Districts calls for the provincial government to declare gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic (Appendix A)
2. Send a letter indicating this endorsement and urging the provincial government to declare gender-based violence and intimate partner violence an epidemic to Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario via email: [doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

cc:

- Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
- Hon. Michael Parsa, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
- Hon. Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- John Vanthof, MPP – Timiskaming-Cochrane
- Anthony Rota, MP – Timiskaming-Nipissing

- Charlie Angus, MP – Timmins-James Bay
- Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
- Dr. Eileen DeVilla, Chair, Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)
- All Ontario Boards of Health
- Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA)
- Health Unit Member Municipalities
- Melanie Ducharme, Chair of Temiskaming District Violence Against Women Coordinating Committee

c. **Medical Care Transportation**

After some consideration, Mr. Lowe informed to defer this discussion item to a later meeting of the Board of Health.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

**MOTION #29R-2024**

Moved by: David Lowe

Seconded by: Casey Owens

Be it resolved the Board of Health acknowledges receipt of the correspondence for information purposes.

CARRIED

12. **IN-CAMERA**

None noted.

13. **RISE AND REPORT**

N/A

14. **DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS**

The next regular meeting will be held on May 1, 2024 at 6:30 pm in Kirkland Lake.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION #30R-2024**

Moved by: Paul Kelly

Seconded by: Carol Lowery

Be it resolved that the Board of Health agrees to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:27 pm.

CARRIED