

# **Report to the Board of Health**

Q1 Report – January to March 2024

## **Report Content**

- THU in Action:

   Our People Our

   Stories
- HR Update



# Timiskaming Health Unit in Action

# Our people - Our stories

# **Foundational Standards**

#### **Population Health Assessment and Surveillance**

Population health assessment and surveillance is an essential public health function to support local public health practice to respond effectively to current and evolving issues and contribute to the health and well-being of our population. The list below highlights some of this work:

#### **Work Completed:**

- Completed the Sociodemographic Report and presented findings during a Grand Rounds with THU staff as well as the Board of Health. A fulsome knowledge translation plan for the general public is in progress.
- Strengthened coverage plans through cross training efforts.
- Initiated the creation of a surveillance framework to monitor indicators relating to emergency preparedness and climate change.
- Completed the Infant Feeding Surveillance System report.

#### Variance:

Knowledge Exchange Plan to support activities at THU initiated but not completed as anticipated.

January to March 2024 Page 1 of 18

#### **Health Equity**

The following section highlights local public health work in 2024 toward reducing health inequities that includes assessing and reporting on the local impact of health inequities and identifying local strategies, modifying and orienting public health interventions, and health equity analysis, policy development, and advancing healthy public policies.

#### **Work Completed:**

- Foundational Standards team initiated completion of OCAP training (Ownership, Control, Access, Possession), which supports researchers in understanding the framework that supports First Nations data sovereignty and information governance.
- Began to initiate the Safer Spaces workplan, which aims to strengthen inclusive practices at THU. The
  Kirkland Lake office adopted some gender-neutral washrooms, staff badges with pronouns and other
  identifiers were launched, and additional training was identified for staff.

#### Variance:

• Due to staff illness and contract positions being eliminated, much of the work identified in the operational plan was not able to be addressed.

#### **Effective Public Health Practice**

Effective public health practice requires THU staff to apply skills in evidence-informed decision-making, research, knowledge exchange, program planning and evaluation, and communication, with a continued focus on quality and transparency. The section below captures 2024 activity highlights for program planning, evaluation, and evidence-informed decision making as well as for knowledge exchange and continuous improvement.

#### **Work Completed:**

- Staff supported mentorship of an MPH practicum student.
- Research, Planning, and Policy Analysts supported the development and launch of a new situational
  assessment template and logic model template and resource. Additionally, a new Operational Plan
  template is under review.
- Nursing Practice Council held a documentation in-service for all clinicians, updated the documentation
  manual, initiated the creation of a medication error resource and reporting mechanism, and continued to
  support the launch of OceanMD.

## **Emergency Management**

Effective emergency management ensures that boards of health are ready to cope with and recover from threats to public health or disruptions to public health programs and services.

#### **Work Completed:**

- Finalized the Hazard Identification Risk Assessment matrix.
- The THU On-call manual was updated.
- THU was successful in applying for a mentorship with ORCCA (Ontario Resource Centre for Climate
  Adaptation). ORCCA will provide THU with support for one year with a project aiming to increase access
  and capacity for warming and cooling centres in Timiskaming.

January to March 2024 Page 2 of 18

# **Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-Being**

#### **Active Living:**

#### **Work Completed:**

• Promoted pole walking: provided in person training to 2 staff at the Northdale Manor activity program, in person pole walking session for 12 residents, created warm-up stretches poster for pole walkers

#### **Food and Nutrition:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- Provided THU Grand Rounds presentation on the topic of weight bias and stigma
- Developed THU Board of Health Briefing note and resolution on Household Food Insecurity

#### **Mental Health Promotion:**

#### **Work Completed:**

• Implemented <u>Caring Adults Matter Campaign</u>: Campaign materials delivered to 24 sports and recreation partners and all childcare providers in the district. Social media (Facebook and Instagram) posts from December to February reach: 11,421, engagements: 234.

#### **Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP):**

The OSDCP program serves seniors within our district who qualify for dental care.

#### **Work Completed:**

- From January to March 2024, the OSDCP saw 31 new clients in the program.
- With the support of the casual dental hygienist, we saw a decrease in the OSDCP waitlist and clients on the recall list were being seen. By end of the 2024, we have a small list of new clients on the waitlist (13).
- The casual dental hygienist contract ended March 31, 2024. We currently have 2 permanent dental hygienists working in the OSDCP. One who is full time and the other who has been given a dental hygienist position extension.
- OSDCP resource updated in preparation for Oral Health Month (April).

OSDCP	2022 Total	2023 Total	2024 Q1 Total
Applied at THU	232	272	45
Applied Online	19	26	1
Unique Seniors Served at THU	182	262	80
Total OSDCP Preventive Appointments at THU	197	280	101
Unique Seniors Served by Providers	554	697	198
Total OSDCP Appointments by Providers	686	901	276

January to March 2024 Page 3 of 18



# **Substance Use and Injury Prevention**

Alcohol and Drug Use, Enhanced Harm Reduction Program and Ontario Naloxone Program:

#### **Work Completed:**

- Development of mobile outreach program for harm reduction supply provision and sexual health services; coordinated presentation to Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy partners.
- Launched campaign to raise awareness around Cannabis edibles and unintentional childhood poisonings
- Presented about Planet Youth Timiskaming to Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy Prevention Pillar and to school boards
- Completed and distributed Progress Update for Planet Youth Timiskaming
- Ongoing backbone support for Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy: coordination, Steering Committee co-chair, chairing three of four working groups.
- Completed and circulated bilingual Substance Use Referral Flow Chart
- Completed map of justice/health system intersections to inform planning
- Hosted one Timiskaming Substance Use Knowledge Network session: Moms Stop the Harm (63 participants)
- Completed onboarding of <u>NEO 360 provincial harm reduction database</u>
- Submitted three funding proposals to Temiskaming Foundation
- Submitted proposal to <u>Sustainable Development Goals Funding Program</u>

#### **Needle Exchange and Harm Reduction Program**

	Internal Program										
Client Services	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024					
Total # Encounters NEP and Other HR Supplies	498	355	159	249	413	54					
Total # of needles provided	-	24,380	31,638	37,260	24,856	3,621					
Total # of bowl pipes provided	-	4,620	12,962	15,366	19,027	1,908					
Total # of Naloxone kits provided	-	236	234	256	260	36					
Total # of Naloxone refills provided		43	45	39	94	6					

January to March 2024 Page 4 of 18

#### **Comprehensive Tobacco Control:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- Regular compliance inspections and surveillance commenced for the year, as well as youth test shopper program
- Promoted National Non-Smoking Week: <u>CBC radio interview</u>, reach via FB: 5529; Instagram: 1587

Tobacco Enforcement										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
Inspections	355	336	357	220	163	267	348	57		
Charges	6	9	7	1	8	5	5	0		
Warnings	103	82	166	73	136	144	108	21		

#### Injury Prevention, including On- and Off-Road Safety:

#### **Work Completed:**

- Ongoing backbone support for Timiskaming Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan implementation:
   Coordinator, co-chair steering committee, chair two of three working groups. Completed progress-to-date
   infographic, submitted funding proposal to United Way for local transportation pilot project; submitted
   funding proposal to Temiskaming Foundation; supported advocacy to Ontario Minister of the Solicitor
   General and Rural Ontario Municipal Association for CSWB support.
- Promoted snowmobiling safety messages on social media (6 posts); Facebook and Instragram: 5741 accounts reached and 62 engagements/likes.

#### **Healthy Aging:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- Implemented SOYF communications campaign
- Continued to lead regional SOYF communications (website & social media)
- Joined Healthy provincial Aging Public Health Network
- Delivered Home Support Exercise Program to 12 Northern College nursing students
- Completed evaluation of SOYF Northeast initiative (final report not yet available)

#### Variance:

- Not implementing Home Support Exercise Program into PSW curriculum at Norther College as planned due to lack of interest from the college. Will continue to partner to offer information to students.
- Did not work with Temiskaming Home Support to integrate volunteers to deliver Home Support Exercise Program at Adult Day program and home visits as planned due to lack of THS staff/volunteers
- Outreach to Indigenous service providers and communities to share Stay on Your Feet deferred to later in year.
- Work to promote transportation options for older adults deferred.

January to March 2024 Page 5 of 18

#### **Healthy Built Environments:**

#### **Work Completed:**

Joined new rural active transportation provincial working group

#### Variance:

Development of 1-page primers for municipalities on health in all policies delayed

# **Healthy Growth and Development**

From January to March 2024, we have had 78 births within our district. Healthy Growth and Development initiatives continue to prioritize and promote preconception, pregnancy, newborn, child, youth, parental and family health.

#### **Breastfeeding and Infant Feeding:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- THU has supported 6 families with hospital grade breasts pump so far this year. Manual breast pumps also remain available as needed for a minimal fee.
- We continue to maintain and support the Timiskaming Breastfeeding Buddies Facebook group. The Facebook page has 194 followers. Weekly breastfeeding posts are shared.
- Lactation consulting support continues throughout the district; a total of 24 breastfeeding interactions have occurred with families so far this year.
- We are in the early stages of building relationships with the local La Lèche League to explore supporting a breastfeeding peer support program.

#### **Prenatal Education:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- We continue to offer the online bilingual course for THU residents via Public Health Sudbury and Districts.
- THU continues to partner with Timiskaming Brighter Futures to offer virtual prenatal sessions.
- Final revisions and updates have been made to THU's in-person prenatal classes. The HG&D team will be offering in-person prenatal classes in April and September of 2024.
- From January to March 2024, THU has completed four prenatal sessions with four moms and two support partners. They are all first-time parents.

#### Well-baby Visits (WBV):

THU continues to offer WBV throughout the district. These visits reach children aged 0 to 6 years and offer services such has immunizations, weights, and developmental screening.

#### **Work Completed:**

- THU continues to offer weekly Well Baby Clinics (WBC) throughout the district. We continue to see an increase in 4-year immunization boosters at the WBC.
- A total of 206 children accessed clinical services from January to March 2024. (NL: 93, KL: 75, Englehart: 38).

January to March 2024 Page 6 of 18

We are strengthening collaboration with the Kirkland Lake District Family Health Team (KDFHT). As
part of this partnership, we have a PHN doing lunch and learn moments with their nursing team.
 KDFHT is also going to support THU in completing the prenatal HBHC screens so that we can better
support families in need and offer needed services and programs during pregnancy.

#### **Mental Health:**

#### **Work Completed:**

• We continue to screen families using the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale prenatally, 48 hours after hospital discharge, at 2-months, and at 6-months post-partum. No referrals were made between January to March 2024. Those that scored high on the Edinburgh were already receiving services.

#### Parenting:

#### **Work Completed:**

- THU continues to update the Parenting in Timiskaming website and newsletter content.
- Parenting in Timiskaming Facebook page: posts are ongoing. Page also aims to share parenting-related activities and information from community partners. Cross-posting to THU page & Youth Insta as relevant. Includes monitoring page and replying to comments.
- Local Parenting Working Group continues to meet bi-monthly. With a priority placed on crosspromotion and cross-collaboration, the group has led to some joint program planning and sharing of local data.
  - Also led to supporting "Attendance Matters" campaign in collaboration with THU & PHU-area school boards. Adapted from NBPSHU, the campaign highlights the importance of not missing days of school and ways stakeholders can support students.
  - o Also working on a shared inventory of local parenting-related resources
- We continue to collaborate and look for ways we can engage and work with local child care providers and programs.
- THU Public Health Promoter contributed to PHN-Prep sleep resource review.

#### **Road Safety and Car Seat Safety:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- Established a local "Car Seat Collaborative": a mailing list with the intention of collaboration with regards to car seats (programs, clinics, planning, support).
- Ongoing car seat inspections performed as requested by the community. Ten car seats have been inspected by THU staff from January to March 2024.
- We continue to work collaboratively with other agencies that have trained technicians.

#### **Healthy Eating:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- Developed posts on Practical Tips to help children try new foods for the Parenting in Timiskaming website and social media platforms.
- Developed posts on breastfeeding and alcohol and cannabis use and on cow's milk introduction.

January to March 2024 Page 7 of 18

#### **Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) Program:**

The goal of the HBHC program is to optimize newborn and child healthy growth and development and reduce health inequities for families. The program includes the following components: (1) Screening – prenatal, postpartum and early childhood (2) In-depth assessment (IDA) contact and assessment for families with risk (3) Postpartum Contact (4) Blended Home-Visiting and Family Service Plan.

The table below outlines the percentage of births that received a prenatal and postpartum screen as well as the percentage of eligible children (6 weeks to 70 months) who received an early childhood screen. We continue to see an increase in families accessing the HBHC program in the south end of THU's catchment area since resuming regular programming.

Percent of births receiving a prenatal and postnatal HBHC screen and % of eligible children with an early childhood HBHC screen in Timiskaming Health Unit area.								
Screen		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Prenatal		82%	65%	82%	75.4%	62%	71%	10%
		82%	05%	82%	(46.5%)*	(49.5%)*	(55%)	
Postpartum		96%	70%	0.40/	82.8%	79%	77%	80%
		96%	70%	84%	(69.8%)*	(78.9%)*	(82%)	
Early Childho	ood		2%	0.7%	3.6%	4%	0.8%	5%
		3%	Z%	0.7%	(68.4%)*	(67.3%)*	(88.9%)	
*Clients who are considered high-risk as defined by the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Screen								

#### **Blended Home-Visiting (BHV) Program:**

Н	ealthy Babies Hea Home \	lthy Childr /isits and F	•		•		
					2022	2023	2024
Number of Prena individuals	Prenatal	16 (66.6%)	6 (54.5%)	11 (91.7%)	7 (87.5%)	9 (75%)	21 (70%)
confirmed with moderate or high risk (eligible for	Postpartum	33 (53.2%)	16 (51.6%)	34 (73.9%)	30 (73.2%)	48 (87.2%)	39 (79.6%)
home visit) through	Early Childhood	18 (72%)	9 (90%)	11 (78.6%)	21 (77.8%)	13 (52.2%)	12 (75%)
Number of families se home visits	rved with ≥ 2	41	26	29	46	69	43
Number of families what IDA.	no received an	111	52	72	76	91	30
Number of families wi plan initiated		10	9	30	48	10	
Total # of Home Visits both)	(with a FHV, PHN or	206	140	88	498	727	196

January to March 2024 Page 8 of 18

#### **HBHC Screening and Hospital Liaison:**

#### **Work Completed:**

• We continue to offer daily weekday hospital liaison visits to Temiskaming Hospital. These visits also allow the PHNs to complete a formal post-partum Healthy Babies Healthy Children screen as mandated by the ministry. The visits enable PHNs to assist families with breastfeeding and to discuss and promote services at THU and within the community.

## **School and Child Care Health**

#### **Oral Health and Vision Screening:**

The Oral and Vision Health team has returned to full services in-school. All mandated programming is being completed.

#### Work completed:

- Planning work is underway to complete a feasibility study related to evaluating the Child Care Fluoride Varnish program.
- Healthy Smile Program resource was updated in preparation for Oral Health Month (April 2024).



#### Variance:

- We continue to post the maternity leave dental assistant job posting. We have been unsuccessful at recruiting for this position.
- The Child Care Fluoride varnish program (non-mandatory) remains on hold related to capacity issues.

Oral Health - Dental Screenings									
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Jan-Mar)
Pre-K/JK & Grade 2 In-School Mandatory Program	937	800	624	925	279	0*	518	904	375
Regular Screened (all other grades including rescreens/parent request)		**	985	1840	632	0*	751	1129	284
Office Screenings	238	248	231	193	105	150	88	466	126

 $<sup>{\</sup>bf *This\ program\ was\ impacted\ by\ staff\ redeployment\ to\ the\ COVID-19\ pandemic\ and\ the\ impact\ of\ COVID-19\ measures\ on\ school\ partners.}$ 

#### **School Health Immunization and Licensed Child Care:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- The school team worked on ISPA preparation and the suspension process started.
- The school nurses increased immunization calls to parents regarding overdue 4-year booster immunizations. Approximately 200 calls were completed. They also worked with principals on getting this information through schools as well.

January to March 2024 Page 9 of 18

<sup>\*\*</sup>Data for this section was not captured in the same fashion it was starting in 2018, therefore it is not specific to the grades required.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>Title renamed to better reflect ministry reporting (2024). It used to be Pre-Kind/Kind, Grade 2, 4 & 7 In-School Mandatory Program

- The school team supported the NL and KL office with school immunization during the regular routine evening immunization clinic.
- Support and collaboration continue with our licensed child care providers.

#### **Comprehensive School and Child Care Health:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- The school team continues to support IPM activities.
- IPM information shared with parents through school council meetings. Engagement continues with our schools as well.
- We provided JK resources and supports to all schools. We attended a few school open houses to support JK registration day.

#### **Infectious Diseases and Infection Prevention and Control:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- We continued to support our local schools with IPAC resources as needed.
- We continue to make sure that THU website information for schools and child care remains up to date.
- With support from the IPAC team, the school team supported the development of parent information related to the increase in measles seen in the province. Parent information was shared with our anabaptist schools and communities as well with all our public schools.

#### **Healthy Eating and Active Living:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- We continue to share nutritional supports/resources/grants with schools as requested.
- We continue to support the schools with the NFVP and SNP programs. The dietitian is helping with coordination and evaluation of the NFVP program as she works with our schools and school nurses.
- Promotion posters were updated to share with schools promoting Nutrition Month activities during March related to the Blender Bike.
- We promote local food bank locations and hours to schools for students and families.
- THU continues to support the Playground Activity Leaders in Schools (PALS) program. PALS is a playground leadership program that encourages all children to participate in activities regardless of their gender, size or ability.
- Winter Walk Day was in February, and we supported 9 schools with resources and participation incentives
  (approximately 100 teachers and 2,000 students). Students were encouraged to walk to school on this day
  and teachers were encouraged to provide opportunities for walking at recess or in class. Handouts with
  were prepared for teachers to copy and distribute, and each student was given a Winter Walk Day sticker.
  Prizes including winter, hats, mitts, gloves were also given to each school to hold a draw for their students.
- The Walk 'N Roll program had previously written a memo to the City of Temiskaming Shores recommending improvements based on our school zone safety assessments at École Catholique St. Michel, and we recently received confirmation that council has budgeted \$80,000 in 2024 to build a pathway connecting the back of St. Michel school to the Dymond neighbourhood.

January to March 2024 Page 10 of 18

#### **Sexual Health and Healthy Sexuality:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- THU has seen an increase in students accessing nurses during the healthy relationship clinics in 4 of 5 of our high schools. The purpose of the healthy relationship clinic is to build relationships with students by offering services that include sexual health (birth control, pregnancy tests, STI testing), healthy relationship, mental health, tobacco, and vaping supports.
- The healthy relationship clinics are being promoted via TikTok videos and on the @youthtimiskaming Instagram page. Some videos are getting around 900 views.
- Curriculum support for sexual health co-teaching in some of our high schools were completed (ESCSM and Envolée du Nord).

#### **Substance Use:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- We continue to support our local schools with resources and information on tobacco, vaping and cannabis as requested.
- Vaping booths were set up in our high schools with an interactive activity for students. The school nurses
  interacted with many students during this booth. They showcased the hairspray versus water vapors to
  students.
- A local high school with the support of the school nurse is working on Not An Experiment escape room.
- The school team is working with our local drug strategy to ensure supports and information is being shared with them.
- The tobacco enforcement officer is planning on increasing his visits to the local high schools.
- Opioid and Bullying activities were held at some of our local high schools; students were engaged with the activities (TDSS and KLDCS).

#### **Mental Health:**

#### **Work Completed:**

- The school nurses continue to support the RNAO Youth Wellness Initiative.
- The school nurses also supported health promoters with work related to Planet Youth. THU and PHU are planning meetings with DOEs to share the IPM community and school survey results (April).

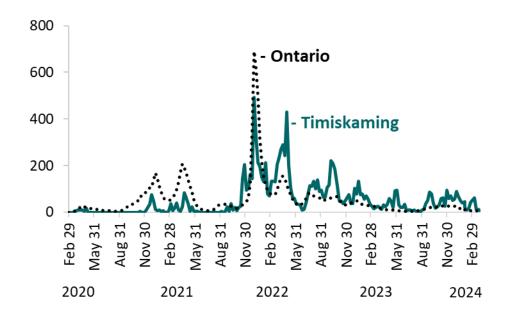
January to March 2024 Page 11 of 18

# Infectious and Communicable Disease Prevention and Control

Outbreaks	Number		Number of cases						
2024 Q1	of outbreaks	Staff	Resident /patient	Student	Visitor	Other	of deaths		
Long-Term Care & nursing homes	7	4	73	0	0	0	2		
Hospitals	2	3	13	0	0	0	1		
Congregate living	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Community	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Daycare/school	2	12	0	13	0	0	0		
TOTAL	11	19	86	13	0	0	3		

#### COVID-19 2024 Q1

- 153 confirmed cases in total for Q1 2024
- Outbreaks:
  - 4 Long-Term Care Home/Nursing Home
  - o 2 Hospital
- The rate of COVID cases in THU have mostly been higher than Ontario's during Q1.



January to March 2024 Page 12 of 18

#### **COVID-19 Communications:**

#### **Public and External**

- Information regarding current regarding local and provincial guidance and recommendations for the public and various sectors including regulation changes are shared as appropriate via mainstream media and social media. Planning for Spring COVID Vaccine campaign for Q2.
- Weekly risk assessment for all respiratory diseases are updated on our website.

#### Media Relations

Media questions continued to be fielded from media locally and across the province.

#### Internal

- Updates for our area and for the province were communicated internally via all-staff emails as well as a virtual all-staff meeting.
- Social media pages from other Ontario health units are monitored for internal planning.

#### **IPAC Hub:**

Work continues and relationships are maintained with the IPAC Hub and THU staff provide regular education and support to congregate care settings in the district (5 Long Term Care, 1 Retirement Home and 4 Community Living Sites). Meetings continue to be held as needs arose, and updates from the province were provided as available. A survey was sent to our partners asking which education topic would be of interest to them for future planning of the Community of Practice (CoP).

#### **Work Completed:**

- Education session provided to LTCH/RH and CL partners on Invasive Group A Strep.
- Finalized presentation for Q2 on Tuberculosis.
- Internal committee continues to meet regularly to discuss outbreaks and relevant topics.
- Participate in the Regional IPAC Hub table which was meeting every 2 months.
- Complete and submit monthly reporting tool on THU IPAC activities.
- Completed IPAC audits to several settings within the district.
- Completed IPAC audits to several programs within THU.

#### Variance:

 Unable to complete IPAC audits/site visits to all congregate care settings (2 of the 5) due to staff limitations.

#### **Other Diseases of Public Health Significance**

Reportable Diseases and Infection Control										
Client Services	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 Q1				
Reportable Investigations (non-STI)	91	154	652	1,342	1,261	194				
Outbreaks - Institutional	18	25	16	18	37	11				
Outbreaks - Community	0	2	23	0	2	2				
Animal Bite Reporting	72	64	62	74	51	25				

January to March 2024 Page 13 of 18

Sexually transmitted infections (STI)	67	75	69	28	50	18
Personal service settings inspections (hair salons, tattoos, piercings, aesthetics)	49	31	10	14	19	29

#### **Sexual Health Program:**

The goal of the Sexual Health Program is to promote healthy sexuality.

Sexual health services at THU include:

- STIs and testing,
- Pregnancy testing/options counselling,
- Sexuality,
- Sexual health,
- Free condoms,
- Low-cost birth control.

Client Services	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Male Clients	127	164	308	292	142	68	179	37
Female Clients	805	644	1014	690	295	137	291	107
% of clients between 12-24	-	66%	63%	56.3%	49.2%	46.8%	59.1%	58%
Contraceptives (sold)	846	198	195	72	38	29	12*	3
Contraceptives (prescribed)	-	-	-	138	47	83	72	17
Plan B	25	23	25	16	3	13	7	0
STI Tests	201	257	329	241	102	111	186	**
Pregnancy Tests	36	37	39	20	12	19	31	7
IUD/Pregnancy Referrals and (F/U)***								7
Blood-Borne Infection Tests	97	140	148	58	27	42	77	97**
Treatment Prescribed for STI	-	-	-	-	29	40	39	1
Pap tests	-	-	-	-	10	11	5	2

<sup>\*</sup>this number denotes the amount of visits where contraceptives were sold, not the amount of contraceptives provided

January to March 2024 Page 14 of 18

<sup>\*\*</sup> STI and STBBI are now captured under the same category to follow most appropriate and inclusive language

<sup>\*\*\*</sup>this new reporting category was added to highlight the referrals to other providers for various services not offered at THU, including terminations

#### **Work Completed:**

- Continued with the creation of social media posts on various sexual health topics in collaboration with the youth initiative.
- Connected with internal partners (school team, health promotion) to discuss bridging services and reaching more students.
- Participated in several learning opportunities to increase staff knowledge and competence.

#### Variance:

 New SH PHN in the south end continues to seek mentorship and education opportunities to enhance her knowledge.

# **Immunizations**

#### Immunization – Vaccine Safety and Vaccine Administration

#### **COVID-19 Vaccine Program**

#### **Communications:**

Continued social and traditional media and building on partnerships with community organizations to reach specific populations.

Other COVID-19 vaccine program highlights:

- Participated in bi-weekly ministry calls to learn more and plan for the end of the Fall Vaccine Campaign and to plan for the Spring Vaccine Campaign.
- Collaborated with pharmacy partners to ensure they have access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

#### **Routine Immunizations:**

Immunization Program									
Immunizations Administered in Office	2024								
# of clients receiving immunizations	636								
# of immunizations administered	845	487	165	4165	936				
Note: These numbers do not include Influenza \ R07090 Immunization Administered or Wasted at Hea	RAMA-								

January to March 2024 Page 15 of 18

### **Cold Chain Inspections**

		Vaccine Fridges - Cold Chain Inspections									
Year	KL		N	L	ENG						
	Total inspections	Total failures	Total inspections	Total failures	Total inspections	Total failures					
2018	15	11	32	10	5	1					
2019	15	7	30	12	10	2					
2020	18	11	24	3	8	1					
2021	19	4	28	3	9	0					
2022	19	9	25	4	8	0					
2023	16	9	24	2	8	1					
2024	1	2	2	2	0	0					

# **Land Control**

Septic Systems	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Permits Issued	131	111	124	38	66	76	106	125	93	1
File Searches	60	60	66	28	55	65	54	53	41	6
Severance/Subdivision	15	15	29	10	13	8	13	14	12	0

# Safe Water

Drinking Water	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Small Drinking Water Systems	13	48	2	3	36	34	0	
Recreational Water								
Public Beaches (Seasonal Jul-Aug)	17	17	19	0	0	17	0	
Pools	18	28	8	13	8	18	3	
Recreational Camps/Beachfront (Seasonal Jul-Aug)	9	11	0	5	9	7	0	

#### Variance:

• The vast majority of this program's work takes place in other quarters due to its seasonal nature.

January to March 2024 Page 16 of 18

# **Healthy Environments and Climate Change**

We continued to analyze the findings in the climate change and health <u>report</u>, which was completed through the collaborative project of the northeastern health units. To increase the awareness of this topic the report was released and plans for next steps have been worked on in 2023. Our approach at this point has been to use the report to assist with prioritizing health concerns related to climate change that are of a greater risk specifically in our district. In partnership with Porcupine Health Unit, THU will continue to work to identify adaptation and mitigation strategies while still leveraging the knowledge and experience of the initial group when appropriate.

#### Variance:

• Some initial planning has taken place in Q1 of 2024 but no firm actions have been initiated at this point in the year. Prioritizing capacity for this work remains a challenge.

# **Food Safety**

Food Premises - Compliance Inspections										
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
High Risk	165	184	109	93	88	47	29	29	40	14
Medium Risk	206	110	187	214	192	96	60	93	122	35
Low Risk	149	204	160	129	135	62	58	126	129	36
Total	520	498	456	436	415	205	147	248	291	85

Food Handler Certifications										
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Englehart	63	26	23	75	58	3	24	10	37	17
New Liskeard/Tem	90	68	144	351	182	19	55	29	177	29
Kirkland Lake	70	41	58	127	15	34	5	12	19	2
Total	223	135	225	553	255	56	84	51	233	48

**Variance:** Additional opportunities will take place in Q4 for people to obtain their certification. Anyone at any time can take the on-line course as well.

January to March 2024 Page 17 of 18

# **Human Resource Update**

# The comings and goings of our colleagues

# processing processing

#### **New Staff:**

• Public Health Inspector, Temporary, Kirkland Lake (May 2024-May 2025)

#### **Retirement:**

• n/a

#### Resignation:

• n/a

#### **Current Vacancies:**

- Public Health Inspector, Permanent, Kirkland Lake
- Dental Assistant, Temporary, Kirkland Lake
- Registered Dietitian, Permanent, Full-Time, District-Wide

**Report contributors:** Randy Winters – Director of Corporate & Health Protection Services, Erin Cowan – Director of Strategic Services & Health Promotion/CNO. Program Managers: Ryan Peters, Angie Manners, Amanda Mongeon, Jennifer Cardinal. Executive Assistant: Rachelle Cote.

January to March 2024 Page 18 of 18