

A regular meeting of the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit was held on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, via video teleconference. Live streaming of the proceedings was provided for the public.

PRESENT:

Nipissing District:

Central Appointee
Central Appointee
Central Appointee
Central Appointee
Western Appointee

Nancy Jacko (*Chairperson*)
Stuart Kidd (*Vice-Chairperson*)
Scott Robertson
Tanya Vrebosch
Dan Roveda

Parry Sound District:

North Eastern Appointee
South Eastern Appointee
Western Appointee

Blair Flowers
Marianne Stickland
Jamie McGarvey
Gary Guenther

Public Appointees:

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer
Public Health Physician
Executive Director, Community Services
Community Health Promoter, Healthy Living
Hepatitis C Outreach Worker, AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area

Dr. Chirico
Dr. Carol Zimbalatti
Louise Gagné
Tawnia Healy
Glenn Petersen

REGRETS:

Central Appointee
Eastern Appointee

Dave Butti
Dean Backer

RECORDER:

Management Administrative Assistant

Sheri Beaulieu

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Nancy Jacko called the Board of Health meeting to order at 5:53 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda for the October 27, 2021, Board of Health meeting was reviewed and the following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/01 *Guenther/Roveda

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Health Agenda, dated October 27, 2021, be approved.

The recorded vote was as follows:

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd	R						

“Carried”

3.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4.0 PRESENTATION: SEE THE PERSON

Tawnia Healy, Community Health Promoter with the Healthy Living team, Glenn Petersen, Expert by Experience, Anti-Stigma Work Group, Hepatitis C Outreach Worker with the AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area, and Louise Gagné, Executive Director of Community Services were welcomed to the meeting.

A homelessness anti-stigma initiative presentation to Board of Health members was provided to inform Board members of the collaborative project and share knowledge and expertise by those with lived experience, and how COVID-19 exposed the health and social inequities.

The main objective of the presentation was to raise awareness and increase community understanding of homelessness, shift public attitudes by sharing wisdom of people with lived experience, encourage consideration of an individual’s story, to see the person, act with compassion rather than judgement, and to learn more about housing and homelessness in Nipissing District.

Additionally, the presentation was shared to inform community members of the complexities of homelessness and housing challenges. The information shared addressed core housing and how it relates to health and well-being, housing as a determinant of health and human rights, forms of stigma felt and their impacts, local housing and homelessness data, root causes, and a number of ways to become involved.

Questions and comments were addressed by the presentation panel.

Ms. Healy and Mr. Petersen were thanked for their informative presentation. Additionally, Mr. Petersen was acknowledged and thanked for his significant contribution to this work and the COVID-19 response since the onset of the pandemic.

5.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Board of Health Minutes – June 23, 2021

The minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on June 23, 2021, were reviewed and the following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/02 *Robertson/Stickland

Be It Resolved, that the minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on June 23, 2021, be approved as presented.

The recorded vote was as follows:

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd							

“Carried”

6.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: November 24, 2021

Time: To be determined

Place: To be determined

7.0 BUSINESS ARISING

There was nothing under Business Arising.

8.0 REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health dated October 22, 2021, was presented to the Board of Health for information purposes.

An additional verbal update from the Medical Officer of Health was also provided. The verbal update reported the following:

- Provincially, case numbers have declined by 25% with 1,000 less cases this week than the previous week
- There has been a decline in the number of cases in the 5-11 age group, and there has also been a decline in the number of deaths
- The province is moving in the direction of safely reopening as the number of cases decline and have outlined a 6-month phased approach to lifting all measures, including the use of face coverings and proof of vaccination

- Continual monitoring of key indicators to inform the best approach is important
- Key indicators may include new variants that might emerge, increases in new cases, the number hospital and ICU admissions, public health case management and contact tracing, increased transmission, impacts to schools and in-person learning, and vaccination coverage rates and waning immunity
- Local and regional epidemiological conditions that might arise will be monitored; the provincial and local responses to increasing indicators will be critical
- Key learnings from other countries indicate that loosening restrictions prematurely was directly linked to increased cases
- Recent projections of the Science Table indicate the need to proceed with caution
- The curve of the fourth waves appears to be blunted at this time and has essentially become the fourth wave of unvaccinated individuals
- The more individuals that get vaccinated and we all continue to follow public health measures the better it will be everyone
- The focus now is on childhood immunization; the Health Unit is working with parents, schools, and community partners on this initiative
- It does appear that there will be availability of a vaccine for the 5-11 age group
- In lieu of specifics related to the vaccine for this cohort, the Health Unit is in the process of working with community partners in preparing for mid-November to ensure we are ready in the event that it is distributed – this will be a priority for the Health Unit in the entire district
- We know that first and second doses for the vaccine are highly effective
- It has been found in the unvaccinated population that they are seven times at greater risk of COVID-19 infection, 17 times greater risk of hospitalization, and 23 times greater risk of ICU admission
- Locally the cases have remained low averaging one case per day; there have been 805 total cases with 7 cases active at this time, 3 of those cases hospitalized
- Immunizations are slow but progressing
- Throughout the district 86% of the 12+ age group has received one dose of the vaccine and 82% are fully immunized; the provincial average is 88% and 84% respectively
- Immunization will be the focus over the next couple of months and is anticipated to be challenging from the human resources perspective
- The Health Unit has been hiring extra help where possible and collaborating with partners in the immunization strategy
- Some third doses have already been administered, there will be increasing eligibility announced for booster doses soon, the 5-11 age group is anticipated shortly, additionally, there will be the start of the influenza campaign and mandated catch up on routine childhood immunizations
- Pharmacies and primary care providers have and will be a tremendous support on the two latter initiatives
- Co-administration of the COVID-19 vaccine and the influenza vaccine has been authorized
- Case and contact management continue to be a public health priority to aid in isolating and stopping the progression of the virus

- While there have been some school-related positive cases, there has not been a school outbreak

Questions from Board members related to the Report and COVID-19 in general were addressed.

In follow up to the report from the Medical Officer of Health, and in support of the Health Unit's Personnel COVID-19 Immunization Policy, the following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/03 *Vrebosch/Stickland

Amend the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit COVID-19 immunization policy to include board members.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd	R						

"Carried"

9.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

9.1 Finance and Property Committee Report

A Finance and Property Committee meeting was held on October 27, 2021, prior to the Board of Health meeting.

The following recommendation was presented:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/04 *Guenther/McGarvey

Whereas, the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit received funding approval for 2021 from the Ministry of Health (Ministry); and

Whereas, the Board of Health must approve all funding from the Ministry in order to receive the transfer payments.

Therefore Be It Resolved, that on the recommendation of the Finance and Property Committee that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit approve the 2021 Ministry of Health Program-Based Grant, received July 22, 2021, and October 20, 2021, which reconciles the Board of Health approved budget to \$23,501,001.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd	R						

“Carried”

10.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Board of Health correspondence listed for the October 27, 2021, meeting is made available for review by Board members in the Board of Health online portal.

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) 2021 Fall Symposium: Ontario’s Public Health System: Response and Recovery

Notice of and invitation to attend the alPHa 2021 Fall Symposium scheduled for November 19, 2021, was provided to Board of Health members.

The following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/05 *Robertson/Stickland

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit authorizes two Board of Health member(s) attend the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) 2021 Fall Symposium, to be held virtually on Friday, November 19, 2021; and

Furthermore Be It Resolved, that expenses related to attendance of the alPHa 2021 Fall Symposium be paid in accordance with the Board of Health Remuneration Policy, #B-F-004.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd	R						

“Carried”

11.2 Board of Health Meeting Schedule Revision

The following motion was read:

Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2021/10/06 *Guenther/Vrebosch

Whereas, on September 16, 2021, the Board of Health was advised that complexities of recent COVID-19 financial reporting requirements would impact the ability to provide the Board of Health with the necessary financial information at the September 22, 2021, Finance and Property Committee and Board of Health meetings; and

Whereas, the Board of Health was further advised that the September Finance and Property Committee and Board of Health meetings would be deferred to October 27, 2021; and

Whereas, it has further been determined that the December Finance and Property Committee and Board of Health meetings will not be required; and

Whereas, revisions to the 2021 Board of Health Meeting Schedule are as follows:

DATE	MEETING	TIME
January 27 <i>*This date is carried over from the 2020 approved schedule; for information only</i>	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health Meeting	5 – 7 p.m.
February 24	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health Meeting	5 – 7 p.m.
April 28	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
June 23	Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
September 22	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
October 27	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
November 24	Personnel Policy, Employee and Labour Relations Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
December 1	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.
January 26, 2022	Finance and Property Committee Board of Health	5 – 7 p.m.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, that in accordance with Section 18 of the Board of Health Bylaws, the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit approve revisions to the 2021 Board of Health Meeting Schedule, as presented.

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Dean Backer	R			Jamie McGarvey	x		
Dave Butti	R			Scott Robertson	x		
Blair Flowers	x			Dan Roveda	x		
Gary Guenther	x			Marianne Stickland	x		
Nancy Jacko	x			Tanya Vrebosch	x		
Stuart Kidd	R						

“Carried”

12.0 IN CAMERA

There was no in camera session.

13.0 ADJOURMENT

Having no further business, the Board of Health Chairperson adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Original Signed by Nancy Jacko

2021-11-24

Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Original Signed by Sheri Beaulieu

2021-11-24

Sheri Beaulieu, Recorder

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)
