

TO: Chair and Members of the Governance Committee

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2015 January 15

BOARD OF HEALTH ORIENTATION

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 02-15GC re “Board of Health Orientation” be received for information.

Key Points

- The Board of Health Orientation will consist of online self-paced learning as well as a one-day orientation session at the Middlesex-London Health Unit office.
- An orientation will allow new Board members to contribute effectively to Board of Health governance and improve performance of the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

Background

As a result of the 2014 municipal elections, there will be five new members appointing to the Middlesex-London Health Unit Board of Health beginning in January 2015. It was moved at the September 2014 Governance Committee meeting that the on-site orientation be reduced to one day and that online components be developed to meet the needs of Board Members.

Online Self-Paced Learning

To facilitate self-paced learning and provide a library of easily accessible priority documents to Board of Health members, an online orientation page has been developed. Content is broken down into the following modules:

- Essential reading;
- Recommended Priority reading;
- Legislation specific to public health;
- Provincial public health reports;
- Middlesex-London Health Unit documents; and
- Web-based resources for Board of Health Members.

These materials are available to all Board of Health members and can be accessed by going to: <https://www.healthunit.com/board-of-health-orientation> and using the credentials provided by the Manager of Strategic Projects.

On-Site Orientation

The traditional Board of Health orientation will be compressed to one day of on-site learning at the Middlesex-London Health Unit where new members will complete necessary administrative tasks and become familiar with the organization. A sample agenda for this on-site orientation can be found in [Appendix A](#).

Next Steps

Each component of the Board of Health Orientation is intended to give members a thorough understanding of the organization, their roles and responsibilities and to provide them with relevant information that will prove helpful useful in providing effective governance to the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

To enrich this content, MLHU staff would like to gather input from the Board of Health regarding:

- Potential agenda items for on-site orientation;
- Scheduling of the orientation date or dates should the Committee decide to break up the date into multiple meetings; and
- Other potential resources that would assist Board of Health members.

This report was prepared by Mr. Jordan Banninga, Manager of Strategic Projects.



Christopher Mackie, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health