

MINUTES  
MIDDLESEX-LONDON BOARD OF HEALTH  
2011 April 14

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Patricia Coderre (Chair)  
Ms. Denise Brown  
Mr. Al Edmondson  
Dr. Francine Lortie-Monette  
Mr. Marcel Meyer  
Ms. Doreen McLinchey  
Ms. Viola Poletes Montgomery (Vice Chair)  
Ms. Nancy Poole  
Mr. Don Shipway  
Mr. Mark Studenny

**REGRETS:** Mr. Joe Swan

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Graham Pollett, Medical Officer of Health & Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. Wally Adams, Acting Director, Environmental Health and Chronic Disease Prevention Services  
Ms. Mary Lou Albanese, Manager, Healthy Communities and Injury Prevention  
Ms. Vanessa Bell, Manager, Special Projects  
Ms. Diane Bewick, Director, Family Health Services  
Ms. Charlene Beynon, Manager, Special Projects  
Ms. Joan Carrothers, Manager, Oral Health  
Ms. Bonni Dennison  
Mr. Dan Flaherty, Manager, Communications  
Mr. Chris Gupta  
Mr. Robert Guthrie  
Mr. Dan Huggins, Water Quality Supervisor, City of London  
Ms. Malorie Knoester  
Ms. Kallie Miller  
Mr. John Millson, Director, Finance and Operations  
Ms. Melissa Rennison, Public Health Nurse  
Mr. William Row  
Ms. Maria Sánchez-Keane, Centre for Organizational Effectiveness  
Ms. Sherri Sanders, Executive Assistant to the Board of Health (Recorder)  
Mr. Rick Shantz, Director, Information Technology  
Ms. Deb Shugar, System Facilitator, tykeTALK  
Ms. Linda Stobo, Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention and Tobacco Control Team  
Ms. Nancy Summers, Manager, Family Health Services  
Ms. Louise Tyler, Director, Human Resources and Labour Relations  
Dr. Bryna Warshawsky, Associate Medical Officer of Health & Director, Oral Health, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health Services  
Ms. Amy Yateman, Health Promoter, Environmental Health and Chronic Disease Prevention Services

**MEDIA OUTLETS:** Mr. Dale Carruthers, London Free Press

Chair Coderre called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICT(S) OF INTEREST**

Chair Coderre inquired if there were any disclosures of conflict of interest to be made. None were declared.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Ms. McLinchey, seconded by Mr. Studenny *that the Minutes of the March 17, 2011, Board of Health meeting be approved.* Carried.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Edmondson *that the revised agenda of April 14, 2011, Agenda be approved.* Carried

## **ACTION REPORTS**

### **1) Report No. 035-11 re Two New Full Time Equivalent Public Health Nursing Positions**

Dr. Graham Pollett, Medical Officer of Health & Chief Executive Officer, assisted the Board members with their consideration of this report.

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Meyer *that the Board of Health accept the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care conditions as defined in Appendix B of Board of Health Report No. 036-11 to receive up to \$170,040 to support two new full time equivalent Public Health Nursing positions.*

Carried

### **2) Report No. 036-11 re Call for Action Against Smoking in Movies**

Ms. Linda Stobo, Manager, Southwest Tobacco Control Area Network, assisted the Board members with their consideration of this report.

It was moved by Ms. Poole, seconded by Ms. McLinchey:

1. *That the Board of Health endorse the resolutions put forth by the Ontario Coalition for Smoke-free Movies, attached as Appendix A, to express support for policy actions to reduce the impact of smoking in movies on youth; and further,*
2. *That the Board of Health communicate its support for policy actions to reduce the impact of smoking in movies on youth to local MPPs and other Boards of Health in Ontario.*

Carried

### **3) Report No. 037-11 re Records and Information Management Program – Revised Policy 6-030**

Dr. Pollett assisted the Board members with their consideration of this report. Dr. Pollett advised the Board that the recruitment process is complete for hiring a Manager, Special Projects (Records Management and Accreditation). Mr. Ross Graham has accepted the position and will commence his employment with the Health Unit on May 2, 2011.

It was moved by Ms. Poletes Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Edmondson *that the Board of Health approve revised Policy 6-030 – Health Unit Records-Establishment, Record Classification, Retention and Disposal.*

Carried.

### **4) Report No. 046-11 re Appointment of Mr. Al Edmondson to aPHa Board of Directors**

It was moved by Dr. Lortie-Monette, seconded by Ms. Brown *that the Board of Health endorse the nomination of Mr. Al Edmondson for appointment to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aPHa) Board of Directors for the 2 year term beginning June 2011, ending June 2013.*

Carried.

### **5) Report No. 041-11 re Changes to Ontario's Alcohol Regulatory System – Liquor Licence Act**

Ms. Mary Lou Albanese, Manager, Healthy Communities and Injury Prevention Team, assisted the Board members with their consideration of this report. Ms. Albanese explained that implementation of the recommendation for development of an Ontario Alcohol Strategy would provide a complete picture of the health and economic impacts of alcohol in this province and thus provide information to strengthen regulatory legislation.

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Studenny:

1. *That the Board of Health endorse the resolutions related to alcohol attached as Appendices A and B to Report No. 041-11; and further*
2. *That these resolutions be forwarded to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aPHa) for consideration at the 2011 aPHa Annual Meeting.*

Carried

## **FOR INFORMATION**

### **6) Report No. 038-11 re Medical Officer of Health Activity Report – April**

Dr. Pollett advised the Board members that articles concerning Fluoride in Toronto's drinking water and a statement from the Chief Medical Officer of Health re: Drinking Water Fluoridation were located at each member's desk spot. These articles are filed with the minutes.

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Ms. McLinchey *that Report No. 038-11 re Medical Officer of Health Activity Report – April be received for information.*

Carried.

**7) Report No. 039-11 re Strategic Planning**

Chair Coderre welcomed Ms. Maria Sánchez-Keane from the Centre of Organizational Effectiveness. Ms. Sánchez-Keane reminded the Board of the four phases of the strategic planning process. She reported that the Discovery Report was developed with information gathered from sessions with Board members and staff, online surveys completed by 50 volunteers and 76 community partners, focus groups with 12 community partners and pen and paper surveys available in 8 languages completed by 1,385 Health Unit clients. Ms. Sánchez-Keane expressed thanks to the volunteers who distributed the surveys in person to clients at 50 King Street over January. She also highlighted that phase one of the strategic planning process will be completed by the end of April. Staff will examine the report over April and early May in preparation of a ten year vision to be presented to Board members on May 26, 2011.

It was moved by Mr. Studenny, seconded by Ms. Poletes Montgomery *that Report No. 039-11 re Strategic Planning be received for information.*

Carried

**8) Report No. 040-11 re Review of US National Research Council Report Entitled 'Fluoride in Drinking Water – A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards'**

Chair Coderre reminded everyone that the presentations were an opportunity for the delegations to raise issues or matters relating to Board of Health Report 040-11 and to make their position known to the Board members. Each speaker would be provided 10 minutes for his/her presentation. Chair Coderre reported that the proceedings would be recorded to assist in accurate record keeping. She informed Board Members that questions would be held until the end of all presentations.

Chair Coderre welcomed Mr. Chris Gupta. Mr. Gupta's presentation notes are filed with the minutes. Chair Coderre thanked Mr. Gupta for his presentation.

Chair Coderre welcomed Ms. Kallie Miller. Ms. Miller expressed concern about mass medication and distributed a DVD entitled, "Troubling Waters: Let the Truth Be Told." The DVD and Ms. Miller's presentation are filed with the minutes. Chair Coderre thanked Ms. Miller for her presentation.

Chair Coderre welcomed Ms. Bonni Dennison. Ms. Dennison expressed her concerns about fluoride in water and its potential relationship to thyroid problems. Chair Coderre thanked Ms. Dennison for her presentation.

Chair Coderre welcomed Mr. Robert Guthrie. A copy of Mr. Guthrie's presentation is filed with the minutes. Chair Coderre thanked Mr. Robert Guthrie for his presentation.

As Mr. Row, who had been scheduled to speak, did not wish too to do so, Ms. Mallory Knoester asked to make a presentation in his place. Ms. Knoester expressed her concerns about fluoride in drinking water. Chair Coderre thanked Ms. Knoester for her presentation.

Dr. Bryna Warshawsky, Associate Medical Officer of Health and Director, Oral Health, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health Services, used a PowerPoint presentation to assist the Board members with their understanding of this report and distributed a revised Appendix A to Report No. 040-11. The PowerPoint presentation and revised Appendix A are filed with the minutes. The revised Appendix A is also posted on the Health Unit web site.

Dr. Warshawsky reminded Board members that the Review of the U.S. National Research Council (NRC) Report: Fluoride in Drinking Water – A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards is based on naturally-occurring fluoride in drinking water and not intended to address drinking water where fluoride is added to prevent tooth decay. Dr. Warshawsky summarized the Health Unit's review of the document by stating the following:

1. Many of the studies used higher doses limiting their applicability to London.
2. Many studies were done in developing countries with many differences in living conditions, and
3. Many studies were weak so it is difficult to draw conclusions.

Dr. Warshawsky also reported that medical literature does not indicate fluoride as a risk factor in endocrine diseases. Clinical observations also do not provide any impetus to do research in this area. She did state that ongoing research will be beneficial to address areas where findings are inconclusive. Dr. Warshawsky reported that the Health Canada systematic review of fluoride in drinking water is expected in the spring of 2011.

At the completion of the delegations' presentations, Chair Coderre invited Board Members to ask questions of the presenters.

In response to a question about how much fluoride is in toothpaste, Dr. Warshawsky stated that each dose of toothpaste provides approximately 0.3 parts per million of fluoride. The Health Unit recommends that young children should not use a toothpaste containing fluoride.

A question was directed to Mr. Guthrie concerning his claim that there is an epidemic of fluorosis in Canada. Board members requested local or at least Canadian studies that support this claim.

A question was directed to Ms. Dennison about the relationship between fluoride and thyroid disease. Board members requested evidence that supports a marked increase in thyroid problems between areas with high fluoride levels in drinking water and those with low or no fluoride (for example, comparison between Stratford, Ontario and London, Ontario where Stratford's water has fluoride levels 3 times greater than London's).

Dr. Warshawsky redirected a question about the quality of fluoride being added to London's drinking water supply to Mr. Dan Huggins, Water Quality Supervisor, City of London. Mr. Huggins explained that a fluoride ion is a fluoride ion whether it is found naturally in a water source or is processed from ore as hydrofluorosilicic acid (HFSA) and added to the drinking water. Mr. Huggins also reminded the audience that the HFSA used by the City of London for fluoridation has to meet more stringent requirements than fluoride used in pharmaceuticals and that the City of London must receive National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) approval for each shipment of HFSA before it can be accepted.

Mr. William Row requested the opportunity to present comments he received from Dr. Hardy Limeback, Professor and Head, Preventative Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Toronto. Chair Coderre granted the request. All Board members had been electronically sent Dr. Limeback's comments prior to the meeting and a hard copy was placed at each member's desk spot prior to the meeting. Notes from Dr. Limeback's comments are filed with the minutes. Chair Coderre thanked Mr. Row for his information.

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Mr. Studenny *that the public comment portion of the meeting be closed.*

Carried

It was moved by Mr. Edmondson, seconded by Mr. Studenny *that Report No. 040-11 re Review of US National Research Council Report Entitled 'Fluoride in Drinking Water – A Scientific Review of EPA's Standards' be received for information.*

Carried

Chair Coderre called a five minute recess.

**9) Report No. 042-11 re Intensive Intervention for Smoking Cessation**

**10) Report No. 043-11 re Ready for School – Thames Valley Neighbourhood Early Learning Program**

It was moved by Mr. Shipway, seconded by Mr. Meyer *that the above Information Reports listed as items 9 and 10 be received for information.*

Carried

**11) Report No. 044-11 re The Work of Public Health Nurses in Shelters**

Ms. Diane Bewick, Director, Family Health Services, introduced Ms. Martha Kirkwood and Ms. Mary Huffman, two of the Public Health Nurses who provide service to seven women abuse and homeless shelters in London and Middlesex County. Ms. Kirkwood and Ms. Huffman invited Board Members to join a Public Health Nurse working in a shelter for part of the day during Nursing Week May 9-13, 2011. A formal invitation with contact information was distributed to Board members at the meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Meyer, seconded by Ms. Poletes Montgomery *that Report No. 044-11 re The Work of Public Health Nurses in Shelters be received for information.*

Carried

**12) Report No. 045-11 re Nursing Practice Excellence**

Ms. Bewick assisted the Board members with their understanding of this report. Chair Coderre expressed congratulations on behalf of the Board of Health to the Health Unit's public health nurses.

It was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Dr. Lortie Monette *that Report No. 045-11 re Nursing Practice Excellence be received for information.*

Carried

**13) CONFIDENTIAL**

At 9:14 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Studenny, seconded by Ms. Brown *that the Board of Health move into Committee of the Whole In Camera for the purpose of considering a matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.*

Carried

At 9:52 p.m., it was moved by Ms. McLinchey, seconded by Mr. Studenny *that the Committee of the Whole rise and report that progress was made on a confidential matter pertaining to advice that is subject to solicitor-client*

*privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose.*  
Carried

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Date of Next Meeting - Thursday, May 19, 2011**

The Volunteer Reception (including dinner) will be held prior to the May Board of Health Meeting in the Middlesex Room (County Building) beginning at 4:45 p.m.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

No questions re correspondence.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:53 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Brown, seconded by Ms. Poletes Montgomery *that the meeting be adjourned.*

Carried

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**PATRICIA L. CODERRE**  
Chair

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**GRAHAM L. POLLETT**  
Secretary-Treasurer