



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2014 November 20

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ACTIVITY REPORT – NOVEMBER

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 070-14 re Medical Officer of Health Activity Report – November be received for information.

The following report highlights activities of the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) from the October Medical Officer of Health Activity Report to November 6, 2014.

On October 16th the MOH delivered opening remarks at the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Education Day. This event was held at the BMO Centre in London and hosted by the Infectious Disease Control Team. Among the many speakers was Dr. Bryna Warshawsky, Public Health Ontario Public Health Physician who gave an update on the Ebola Virus as well as an update on the 2014-2015 Flu. Also on the agenda was Dr. Maria vanHarten, Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) Dental Consultant who discussed oral care for seniors, and Public Health Nurse Lil Marinko who discussed the harmful effects of tobacco.

The past month has seen an increase in teleconference calls that the MOH has had to participate in regards to Ebola readiness. The Health Unit hosted a 2 hour information session to discuss Ebola and Point of Entry possibilities for Middlesex-London on October 24th. Staff from hospitals, clinics, Long-Term Care Homes and key partners were invited to attend. Unfortunately the MOH was unable to present at the last minute, but his portion of the meeting was delivered by Dr. Gayane Hovhannisyan, Associate Medical Officer of Health (AMOH) and Ms. Patricia Simone, Manager Emergency Planning. The session was facilitated by Heather Lokko, Associate Director of Oral Health, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health. After the session, attendees had an opportunity to share comments and ask questions.

On October 29th the MOH delivered welcome remarks at the Launch of the Public Health Agency of Canada's FoodNet Canada New Ontario Site. MLHU has been approved to be one of five sentinel sites across Canada for the FoodNet Canada program. This program is an enhanced integrated surveillance program for food- and water-borne illness. MLHU will focus on gathering enhanced case and risk factor information, and retail sampling. Amy Pavletic, Public Health Inspector will be the Site Coordinator and responsible for the implementation of FoodNet Canada at this health unit.

The MOH, along with the Nursing Practice Council, hosted a Lunch and Learn information session on the Ebola virus, what is being done to prevent the spread of the disease, the implications for Middlesex-London and ways that the MLHU will be preparing for the potential spread of the virus.

November 3rd was the kickoff for the London Abused Women's Centre's (LAWC) *Shine The Light On Women Abuse* Campaign. The Health Unit is a proud sponsor of this annual event and the MOH along with several staff attended the lighting of the purple lights at Victoria Park. The primary goal of the campaign is to raise awareness of men's violence against women. A former employee of the Health Unit, Ms. Sonia El Birani was murdered by her husband. LAWC will be honouring Sonia this year by creating a life size red silhouette of her that will be included as part of the The London Silent Witness Project. Health Unit staff will help to raise awareness and funds for this campaign by donating loonies and toonies

on casual Fridays, wearing purple, decorating their work areas in purple, attending some of the events and donating funds directly to LAWC.

The Medical Officer of Health and CEO also attended the following teleconferences and events:

- October 9 Attended the Child and Youth Network announcement of the Healthy Kids Community Grant for the City of London
- October 20 Initial meeting with Jane Lucas – Ms. Lucas is a high school teacher with the Thames valley District School Board and for 11 years has been assigned to helping high risk teens re-engage in school after dropping out.
- October 21 Participated in the London Police Services Community Consultation for developing their 2016-2018 Business Plan.
- October 22 Co-chaired the South West LHIN Health System Leadership Council meeting at the Stratford General Hospital
- November 5 Welcomed Grade 9 students to the Health Unit for the annual Take Your Kids to Work event.
- November 6 Presented to the United Way Poverty Impact Council, introducing Code Red.
Did an interview with CBC Ontario Morning Wei Chen on immunizations
Attended the London CEO Dinner and Tour of the UWO Advanced Manufacturing Park



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Medical Officer of Health

<p>This report addresses Ontario Public Health Organizational Standard 2.9 Reporting relationship of the medical officer of health to the board of health</p>
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