

MIDDLESEX-LONDON HEALTH UNIT

REPORT NO. 029-15

TO:	Chair and Members of the Board of Health
FROM:	Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health
DATE:	2015 April 16

# SUMMARY INFORMATION REPORT FOR APRIL 2015

## Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 029-15 re Information Summary Report for April and the attached appendices be received for information.

## **Key Points**

- The 2014 activities of the Vector-Borne Disease team are summarized in the Vector-Borne Disease Report: Summary and Outcomes 2014.
- One Life One You mailed letters to local Members of Provincial Parliament (MPP) to profile the importance of Bill 45 for young people within the Middlesex-London community and to highlight the various activities they have done in their schools and within the community to raise awareness and increase public understanding and support for Bill 45.
- Adolescents who are experiencing a pregnancy or have an infant need unique supports in our community. One such support is provided by MLHU Nurses in partnership with the Youth Action Centre.
- Nursing documentation is an important component of nursing practice. To enhance documentation efficiencies for public health nurses, an electronic client record (ECR) has been developed that provides accurate and accessible client information.

## Background

This report provides a summary of information from a number of Health Unit programs. Appendices and links will provide further details, and additional information is available on request.

## Vector-Borne Disease Report: Summary and Outcomes 2014

The Vector Borne Disease Team has completed the 2014 Annual Report for the Vector Borne Disease Program. The report (<u>Appendix A</u>) describes in detail the activities and the various components of the program which is aimed at reducing the transmission and exposure of West Nile Virus and Lyme disease to residents of Middlesex-London. This comprehensive surveillance and control program consisted of larval mosquito surveillance and identification, larviciding, adult mosquito trapping and viral testing, dead bird collection and testing, human surveillance, public education, responding to public inquiries, and both passive and active tick surveillance. Due to the increasing distribution of vector species and the local impact caused by West Nile Virus and Lyme disease, a comprehensive approach in 2015 is required to reduce residents' exposures to mosquito and tick bites.

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#### One Life One You MPP Letters Supporting Bill 45

The One Life One You youth leader group mailed letters (<u>Appendix B</u>) to their local Members of Provincial Parliament highlighting why Bill 45 is particularly important for youth in our community. Within the letter, the youth leaders explained their concerns around the current lack of regulations on the promotion and sale of e-cigarettes to youth under the age of 19 and how Bill 45 will address this issue. They also expressed their concerns about tobacco product flavouring and how fruit and candy flavours make tobacco industry products more appealing to youth. Bill 45 proposes to address this by banning the sale of all flavoured tobacco products, decreasing the likelihood of youth initiation of tobacco use. Lastly, One Life One You described the various activities they have done in their schools and within the community to raise awareness and increase public understanding and support for Bill 45. <u>Appendix C</u> shows the members of One Life One You standing in front of the 990 signatures collected from fellow classmates and staff from seven local high schools to creatively voice support for the enactment of Bill 45.

#### **Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU)**

The Youth Action Centre (YAC) supports vulnerable youth living in London. An extremely vulnerable population that YAC supports is young mothers and mothers- to- be who attend or reside at the Centre. To help support these young women, a Mother's support group was established by public health staff in collaboration with YAC. Teen sessions were created to enhance parenting knowledge and skills, as well as life skills, in a safe and familiar environment. The group is facilitated by a Public Health Nurse on the Young Adult Team in collaboration with staff from the YAC. A client centred approach is embraced to decide upon the topics for each session. Each session offers a healthy snack to promote healthy eating and a positive peer environment to enhance social skills and group cohesion. Examples of the sessions include: making home-made infant/toddler toys, baby food, and slow cooker meals, as well as learning about infant safety, feeding, growth and development and parenting. Currently 13 young women are participating in this program.

#### **Electronic Client Record (ECR)**

The Early Years ECR is a method of documenting interactions between clients and Public Health Nurses (PHN) within Family Health Services. The Early Years ECR is a SharePoint system, created by the Middlesex-London Health Unit and is currently being piloted by all Early Years staff. Implementation start date was Friday January 2, 2015 and will continue until December 31, 2015.

The Early Years ECR was created to replace the antiquated computer program system which had been utilized at Health Connection for over a decade and to replace the hand-written documentation at Well Baby/ Child & Breastfeeding Clinics. Using an ECR is a strategy to create more accurate and accessible client information and to enhance efficient use of PHN time. It will also improve continuity of care to clients accessing all the different early years' programs and provide more accurate reports and evaluations of these programs. Appendix D provides a brief description of programs where the Early Years ECR is currently being piloted. Continuous monitoring of this pilot program involving Early Years and IT staff is occurring and a full evaluation will be provided in early 2016.

M/h.

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