



TO: Chair and Members of the Governance Committee

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2015 June 18

BOARD OF HEALTH DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Governance Committee:

- 1) Receive Report No. 12-15GC re: “Board of Health Development Plan” for information, and further;*
- 2) Approve the organization of an offsite workshop to contribute to Board effectiveness and engagement.*

Key Points

- The Board of Health self-assessment was conducted in February 2015 and results were discussed at the April 2015 Governance Committee.
- The Governance Committee reporting calendar provides a structured way of driving continuous improvement to the Board of Health.
- To address board development, it is proposed that an offsite workshop be held to learn about governance models and best practices and review approved guidelines for Board members.

Background

Consistent with the Middlesex-London Board of Health Bylaw 24.2 and the Ontario Public Health Organizational Standard 4.3 regarding board self-evaluation, the results of the evaluations shall be summarized by Health Unit staff and be translated into recommendations for improvements in the Board’s effectiveness and engagement. This may be supplemented by evaluation(s) from key partners and/or stakeholders.

The Board of Health self-assessment provides a snapshot of current governance practices and provides an opportunity to look at potential board development opportunities and take steps to improve board effectiveness.

At the April Board of Health Governance Committee Meeting, staff reported on the result of the Board of Health self-assessment . Where members responded “yes” or “no”, 100% agreed that the board is achieving outcomes in all questions except one: is the Board of Health structured properly (i.e. membership, size, terms of office, reporting relationships)? One respondent disagreed.

The Governance Committee tasked staff to develop a board development plan for continuous improvement of Board of Health effectiveness and engagement based on the findings of the survey and best practices to present at a future Governance Committee.

Board Development

The Governance Committee preemptively committed to addressing some of the items identified on the self-assessment through the reporting calendar. These included Board of Health orientation and development and the review of governance policies. Orientation was conducted for new Board of Health members prior to the April 2015 meeting and governance policies will be considered at next Governance Committee meeting in October 2015.

Next Steps

Based on the findings of the self-assessment, it is recommended that the Board of Health participate in an offsite workshop to learn about governance models and best practices and review approved guidelines for Board members.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Mackie', is positioned above the printed name and title.

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