

Middlesex-London Board of Health Overview

The Board of Health is an autonomous body responsible for the governance and oversight of the Middlesex-London Health Unit in accordance with [Section 49 \(1\), \(2\), \(3\) of the Health Protection and Promotion Act \(HPPA\)](#) as amended, which outlines the composition of boards of health and [Regulation 559 re: Designation of Municipal Members of Boards of Health](#).

The Board of Health:

- Oversees the implementation, management and advocacy for the health programs and services described in the HPPA and associated regulations. Programs and services include:
 - Infectious disease case and outbreak management
 - Vaccination programs
 - School nurses
 - Home visiting supports for young families
 - Breastfeeding and other nutrition supports
 - Tobacco control
 - Dental screening and treatment for children
 - Inspection of restaurants, pools and spas, long-term care facilities, small drinking water systems, and personal service settings (e.g. salons, tattoo/piercing shops)
- Contributes to the development of healthy public policy by communicating with elected and unelected policy makers about health aspects of policy.
- Provides oversight to an industry-leading budget process that ensures excellent transparency, accountability, and resource allocation.

Middlesex-London Board of Health - Structure

The Board of Health for the Middlesex-London Health Unit includes both Municipal and Provincial Representatives:

- 5 Provincial Representatives
- 3 Middlesex County Representatives (appointed from County Council)
- 3 City of London Representatives (two from City Council, one citizen appointee)

Municipal Representatives are appointed for the duration of their term in public office (or until the respective Council decides to change its representation). Provincial Representatives are appointed by the Ontario Public Appointments Secretariat. Vacancies on the Board will be filled by appointment by the body represented (i.e. the municipality or province).

Each year at its inaugural meeting, the Board of Health will:

- Elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary-Treasurer;
- Decide whether to establish standing committees.
 - Current Board of Health standing committees include: Finance & Facilities Committee, Governance Committee and Relocation Advisory Committee [Ad Hoc].

Important to Know

- The Board of Health meets on the third Thursday evening of each month.
- The Finance & Facilities Committee meets on the first Thursday morning of each month.
- The Governance Committee meets quarterly.
- The Relocation Advisory Committee meets on an ad hoc basis.
- At least one City representative is required to sit on each standing committee and ad hoc Committee as per the Terms of Reference.

Recent Projects

- The Business Case for Supervised Consumption in London, Ontario
- Middlesex-London Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy – A Foundation for Action
- Review of Public Health Services in Middlesex County
- Organizational Plan for Reconciliation
- Public Health Considerations for the 2018 Municipal Election

Upcoming Projects and/or Initiatives

- Location Project (consolidate London-based offices in Citi Plaza)
- Establishment of permanent Supervised Consumption Facilities
- Updating the online Community Health Status Resource
- Renew Strategic Plan by end of 2019
- Implement Electronic Client Record
- Prenatal Immigrant Program
- Enhancing supports for young children and families
- Implementation of Diversity and Inclusion Policy
- Public Health Standards Modernization – Gap Analysis
- iTrack Study (survey of people who use injection drugs)
- Tobacco and E-Cigarette Retailer Density Project

Upcoming Challenges

- Working with the Federal and Provincial governments to establish permanent Supervised Consumption Facilities and/or designate the Temporary Overdose Prevention Site as an Interim Overdose Prevention Site while awaiting federal approval for two fixed locations
- Changes to the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*
- Privatization of Cannabis retail sales and impact of Cannabis legislation
- Movement of infrastructure and personnel to new Health Unit location

Upcoming Opportunities

- Local Evaluation of the Temporary Overdose Prevention Site
- Implement recommendations for service delivery improvement in Middlesex County, following a multi-component review of [Public Health Services in Middlesex County](#)
- Implement organizational plan for reconciliation with Indigenous Communities
- Work with community partners to implement recommendations from the Client and Community Partner Experience Survey
- Work with community partners to implement recommendations from Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy Report

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