

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie, Medical Officer of Health / CEO

DATE: 2019 May 16

SUMMARY INFORMATION REPORT – MAY 2019

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 042-19 re: “Summary Information Report - May 2019” be received for information.

Key Points

- Overview of the TVDSB, Southwestern Public Health, MLHU School Partnership Declaration, which sets out why and how we work collaboratively to reach one common goal: the well-being of children and youth.

TVDSB Partnership Declaration

In 2017, the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) recommended that district school boards (DSBs) and public health units (PHUs) create a Partnership Declaration outlining a shared commitment to creating and sustaining healthy school environments and communities that contribute to the well-being of children and youth. Included in this recommendation are guidelines to advance the creation of the Partnership Declaration. MLHU and the Southwestern Health Unit both serve the same school board partners and thus decided to work collaboratively to create one Partnership Declaration with the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB).

The Partnership Declaration sets out why and how we work collaboratively to reach one common goal: the well-being of children and youth. Declaration committee membership includes representation from PHU managers, dietitians, and health inspectors, and DSB superintendents, principals, learning supervisors, and learning coordinators. Example terms and expectations outlined in the Declaration include strategies for enhanced collaborative planning, opportunities for sharing data, and joint assessment of the need for public health services and resources in schools.

The Partnership Declaration for TVDSB, Southwestern Public Health, and MLHU is complete, and will be signed by the Director of Education and the Medical Officers of Health. The Partnership Declaration is an important step in helping community institutions meet their required public health outcomes. We look forward to working closely with TVDSB and Southwestern Public Health, and building collaborative partnerships.



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