

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie Medical Officer of Health / CEO

DATE: 2019 December 12

SUMMARY INFORMATION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2019

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 077-19 re: “Summary Information Report for December 2019” be received for information.

Key Points

- The provincial government has proposed amendments to Regulation 493/17 Food Premises under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act, RSO 1990, c.H.7.* and Reg 50/16 under the *Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015, S.O. 2015, c. 7.* Through an open consultation process, MLHU provided comments to the Ministry of Health on November 28, 2019.
- The first official report from the Canadian Nurse-Family Partnership® Education (CaNE) project, which ended in December 2018, is now available; two additional reports will be available early in 2020.

MLHU Feedback to Proposed Regulatory Amendments

On October 29, 2019, the Minister of Health, Hon. Christine Elliot, announced proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 493/17 Food Premises, and O. Reg. 50/16 under the Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015. These amendments were proposed in an effort to reduce bureaucratic impediments under the *Better for People, Smarter for Business Act*. As the provincial government had provided a time-limited opportunity for stakeholder feedback, the Food Safety and Healthy Environments Team at the Middlesex-London Health Unit identified several concerns with the proposed amendments and drafted recommendations for consideration. These recommendations were submitted to the consultation process through the Ministry of Health ([Appendix A](#)).

Proposed amendments to Reg. 50/16 include exempting sections of grocery stores that serve single service food items, fruits and vegetables sold by weight, and pre-packaged goods that have a Nutrition Facts Table (in grocery stores), in-store advertisements and catering menus.

Proposed amendments to Reg. 493/17 include the allowance of dogs on patios where food is served, and in food premises where only low risk and / or pre-packaged foods are sold to the public. Additional proposed amendments include the exemption of Food Handler Training certification and reduced equipment requirements (handwashing stations and sinks used for dishwashing purposes) for operators serving ‘low risk’ food to people in need, through community feeding organizations.

CaNE Project: First Report Available

In May 2019, the Middlesex-London Board of Health received [Report No. 039-19](#), ‘Completion of the Canadian Nurse-Family Partnership® Education Project’. A presentation of findings from the CaNE project

was provided to the Board of Health at the time of this report. The primary findings demonstrated that the new model of education: 1) prepared public health nurses and supervisors to implement the program with a high degree of fidelity to the program's core model elements; and 2) was perceived to be sustainable to provide education to a growing NFP workforce in Canada. Nurse-Family Partnership program implementation continues in five health units, with MLHU as the Ontario license-holder. The first official report of the CaNE project is now available and was recently shared with the Ontario NFP Provincial Advisory Committee ([Appendix B](#)). Two additional reports, with enhanced information on the educational curriculum content and process, and the acceptability of the education, will be available early in 2020.



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