

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Christopher Mackie Medical Officer of Health / CEO

DATE: 2020 April 16

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND INSPECTION ACTIVITIES – Q4 AND 2019 SUMMARY

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 018-20 re: “Public Health Inspector Enforcement Actions and Inspection Activities – Q4 and 2019 Summary” be received for information.

Key Points

- In 2019, Public Health Inspectors (PHIs) conducted more than 6,000 inspections of restaurants, personal service settings, pools, drinking water systems, and other facilities.
- Establishments within the City of London and Middlesex County were generally found to be in good compliance throughout the year.
- Enforcement actions included the issuance of provincial offence notices (tickets) as well as orders made under the authority of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7. Inspection activities included compliance inspections, re-inspections, on-site education, and consultations.

Background

Beginning in 2019, the Environmental Health and Infectious Diseases (EHID) division at MLHU began to provide regular updates to the Board of Health pertaining to inspection and enforcement activities. Public Health Inspectors (PHIs) conduct inspection work, onsite education, and enforcement actions in a variety of establishments in the City of London and Middlesex County in accordance with the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* (HPPA) and the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS).

Inspections are grouped into categories of non-critical and critical infractions. Critical infractions must be addressed by the operator to the PHI’s satisfaction at the time of inspection or be subject to further actions, such as fines or orders under the Act.

Inspection reports are available to the public at <http://inspections.healthunit.com/Portal/Enforcements>. In addition to the inspections identified in this report, PHIs also conduct inspections of seasonal farm housing, recreational camps, group homes, and special event vendors. Summaries of these inspection results are available to the public upon request.

Observations

In Q4 2019, 1,761 inspections were completed by MLHU PHIs across the Middlesex-London region. In 90 instances, a reinspection was required to ensure that recommendations to the operator were implemented. Over the 2019 calendar year, a total of 6,373 inspections were completed, requiring 450 re-inspections. This resulted in a re-inspection rate of 5.1% in Q4 2019 and 7.1% overall for the year. The Q4 reinspection rate was slightly

lower than for the first six months of 2019, which had a rate of 8.8%. A total of 37 enforcement actions were taken by PHIs in 2019, which included provincial offence notices (tickets) and orders made under the authority of the HPPA.

Barber shop inspections were not completed in 2019, as they were identified as low-risk services. Due to competing demands, the Infectious Disease Control team was focusing its activities on higher-risk personal service settings.

Reported Actions

Q4 2019

Type of Inspection	Total Inspections	Non-Critical Infractions	Critical Infractions	Enforcement Actions
Child Care	46	5	0	0
Food (Institutional and Other)	146	22	19	0
Food Safety	1,196	808	514	3
Infection Control	41	7	0	0
Personal Service Settings	211	14	57	0
Recreational Water	111	57	28	3
Drinking Water	10	0	0	0

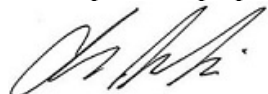
2019 Total

Type of Inspection	Total Inspections	Non-Critical Infractions	Critical Infractions	Enforcement Actions
Child Care	141	29	0	0
Food (Institutional and Other)	434	92	68	0
Food Safety	4,262	3,474	1,958	14
Infection Control	57	10	0	1
Personal Service Settings	592	54	149	0
Recreational Water	841	701	145	22
Drinking Water	46	0	0	0

Summary

Overall, compliance with regulations by operators of inspected premises was found to be good throughout 2019. PHIs continue to work collaboratively with operators by educating them about how to achieve regulatory compliance through safe operating practices. In some instances, and despite continued efforts to achieve a safe operating environment, PHIs were required to escalate their interventions through the use of enforcement tools such as tickets and orders under the HPPA. In the unusual even that the operator is unwilling or unable to work with Health Unit staff to eliminate an immediate health hazard to the public, premises are closed by order.

This report was prepared by the Environmental Health and Infectious Disease Division.



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