

MIDDLESEX-LONDON BOARD OF HEALTH

REPORT NO. 21-24

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health
FROM: Dr. Alexander Summers, Medical Officer of Health
DATE: 2024 March 21

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ACTIVITY REPORT FOR JANUARY
AND FEBRUARY**

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Health receive Report No. 21-24 re: "Medical Officer of Health Activity Report for January and February" for information.

The following report highlights activities of the Medical Officer of Health for the period of January 5 – March 7, 2024.

The Medical Officer of Health provides oversight of all public health programs at the Middlesex-London Health Unit and co-chairs the Senior Leadership Team. The Medical Officer of Health participates in a wide range of external and internal meetings, along with liaising with community partners and municipal and provincial stakeholders.

The Medical Officer of Health, along with other team members, continues to host a weekly Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) Staff Town Hall.

The Medical Officer of Health also participated in the following meetings:

Client and Community Impact – *These meeting(s) reflect the MOH's representation of the Health Unit in the community:*

January 5 Interview with Mike Stubbs, Global News 980 CFPL, regarding the increase in invasive group A streptococcal disease (iGAS) cases in Canada and the situation locally.

January 8 Interview with Reta Ismail, CTV London, regarding the respiratory season following the December holidays.

Attended a planning meeting regarding participating on a panel for a Canadian Club of London event at Huron College.

- January 10** Met with a medical student to discuss the Public Health Preventive Medicine Program.
- January 12** Attended the Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) Executive meeting.
- January 15** Attended a Middlesex-London Ontario Health Team Coordinating Council sub-committee meeting regarding an accelerated budget.
- Participated in the monthly Southwest Medical Officer of Health/Associate Medical Officer of Health meeting.
- January 16** Participated in a meeting with representatives from Public Health Ontario to discuss the response to a measles case which was reported over the December office closure.
- Interview with Gaury Nair, Fanshawe College journalism program, regarding the public health implications of extreme cold.
- Interview with Travis Dolynny, CBC London, regarding the increase in invasive group A streptococcal disease (iGAS) cases in Canada and the situation locally.
- January 18** Participated in a call with Dr. Mehdi Aloosh, Medical Officer of Health, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.
- January 22** Interview with Kimberly Milhomens, regarding National Non-Smoking Week.
- January 24** Participated as part of a panel for an event of the Canadian Club of London at Huron College with the topic Healthcare in our Region.
- January 25** Attended the annual State of the City address.
- Attended the Middlesex-London Ontario Health Team Coordinating Council meeting.
- January 26** Interview with Brian Williams, London Free Press, regarding food insecurities in the region.
- January 29** Attended the quarterly meeting with the Ontario Nurses Association (ONA).
- January 31** Met with Scott Courtice, Executive Director of the London Inter-Community Health Centre.
- Attended the Anti-Black Racism Plan Advisory Committee meeting.
- February 1** Attended quarterly meeting with the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).
- February 2** Met with a medical student to discuss residency in public health.
- February 5** Met with Amardeep Thind, Director, Interfaculty Program in Public Health with Western University.

Participated in a research interview regarding Quadruple Aim, facilitated by Dr. Andrew Pinto, AIHR Applied Public Health Chair in Upstream Prevention.

February 6 Participated in a meeting of the COMOH Ontario Health Teams working group.

February 7 With Glen Pearson, Co-Director of the London Food Bank, recorded a segment for the Food Bites programming on local Rogers Television.

Attended a Strategy and Accountability Table meeting as part of the Healthy and Homelessness Whole of Community Response.

Attended the Empowering Black Youth in Southwestern Ontario Advisory Committee meeting.

February 8 Presented at a “brown bag lunch” event at Western University regarding public speaking.

February 9 Attended the annual Youth Opportunities Unlimited Breakfast fundraiser.

Attended the Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) Executive meeting.

Interview with Kate Dubinski, CBC News, regarding local measles and measles vaccination rates.

February 12 Interview with Travis Dolynny, CBC News, regarding local measles and measles vaccination rates.

February 14 Participated in a call with Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

February 15 Attended the aPHa Board meeting.

February 26 Participated in the monthly Southwest Medical Officer of Health/Associate Medical Officer of Health meeting.

February 27 Participated in a tour of CarePoint’s facility with a focus on its drug testing equipment and processes.

Participated in a call with Dr. Natalie Bocking, Medical Officer of Health, Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit.

Participated in an introductory call with a Master of Public Health practicum student.

Participated in a call with Dr. Shanker Nesathurai, Medical Officer of Health, Chatham-Kent Public Health.

February 28 Participated in a call with Dr. Ninh Tran, Medical Officer of Health, Southwestern Public Health.

- March 1** Presented at a Topic of the Week event with the University of Toronto Public Health and Preventive Medicine Residency Program.
- March 5** Hosted London Police Chief Truong for a meeting at the Middlesex-London Health Unit office.
- Met with a medical student to discuss the Public Health Preventive Medicine Program.
- March 6** Met with Lynne Livingstone, City Manager, City of London.
- March 7** Attended the Wholistic Health and Integrated Care Gathering meeting in Toronto, facilitated by the Indigenous Primary Health Care Council in partnership with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Employee Engagement and Learning – *These meeting(s) reflect on how the MOH influences the Health Unit’s organizational capacity, climate and culture and the contributions made to enable engaged and empowered staff; thoughtful and responsive leadership and organizational structures that support decision-making, innovation and learning:*

- January 9** Attended a Family and Community Health Division leadership team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- Attended a planning meeting for the MLHU STI clinic with physicians providing services, facilitated by Shaya Dhinsa, Manager, Sexual Health.
- January 10** Attended a School Health team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- With Emily Williams, CEO, facilitated a meeting with Shaya Dhinsa, Manager, Sexual Health team to discuss daily program operations.
- Attended an Environmental Health, Infectious Disease, and Clinical Services Division leadership team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- January 11** Attended a Municipal and Community Health Promotion team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- January 15** Attended a meeting regarding case and contact information with First Nations Health Centres.
- Attended the MOS/IDID Steering Committee meeting.
- January 16** Attended the monthly Management Leadership Team meeting.
- January 18** Participated in a meeting to review and revise agency and Board of Health orientation.

- January 23** Participated in a meeting to discuss potential participation in a research project regarding HPV vaccination.
- Participated in a meeting to discussion regarding emergency response.
- January 29** With Jenn Proulx, Director, Family and Community Health, facilitated a meeting with Darrell Jutzi, Manager, Municipal and Community Health and Linda Stobo, Manager, Social Marketing and Health System Partnerships, to conduct program planning and prioritization for 2024.
- January 31** Attended a Public Health Foundations Division leadership team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- Facilitated a meeting to discuss a community response to the drug crisis, building upon the work of the Community Drug and Alcohol Strategy.
- February 6** Attended a Healthy Babies Healthy Children team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- February 9** Facilitated a meeting to discuss recent drug toxicity events locally and provincially.
- February 13** Attended the monthly Management Leadership Team meeting.
- March 4** Participated in a meeting discussing the Middlesex-London Health Unit's Emergency Response Plan.
- March 5** Attended the MOS/IDID Steering Committee meeting.
- March 6** Attended a Nurse Family Partnership and Early Years Group Programs team meeting to support transitioning to the new organizational structure.
- Personal Development** – *These meeting(s) reflect on how the MOH develops their leadership, skills and growth to define their vision and goals for the Health Unit.*
- January 30** Participated in a Public Health Ontario Rounds on inequities in alcohol use and harm.
- January 31** Participated in a call with early career Medical Officers of Health for professional development and mentorship.
- February 1** Participated in a Public Health Ontario Rounds on the "GetaKit" online HIV and STI testing service.
- February 27** Participated in a Public Health Ontario Rounds on "Alcohol Risk and Policy: Epidemiology and Outcomes."

Governance – *This meeting(s) reflect on how the MOH influences the alignment of management methods and systems to ensure appropriate structures and resources are in place to achieve the HU's mission and vision. This also reflects on the MOH's responsibility for actions, decision and policies that impact the HUs ability to achieve the requirements as set out under the strategic plan, the Ontario Public Health Organizational Standards (OPHOS), other funder requirements and direction provided by the Board of Health:*

- January 8** With Emily Williams, CEO, and Joanne Kearon, Associate Medical Officer of Health, hosted representatives from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for a meeting.
- January 11** Attended the monthly Board of Health agenda review and Executive meeting with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Health, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Assistant to the Board of Health.
- January 17** With Emily Williams, CEO, presented to the provincial Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.
- January 18** Attended the monthly one-on-one meeting with the Board Chair.
Attended the inaugural January Board of Health meeting.
- January 22** Attended the Rural Ontario Municipal Association conference in Toronto.
- February 1** Attended the Ontario Public Health Standards Review Table meeting.
- February 8** Attended the monthly Board of Health agenda review and Executive meeting with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board of Health, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Assistant to the Board of Health.

With Emily Williams, CEO, and Matthew Reid-Newton, Board Chair, attended a meeting with Peter Fragiskatos, Member of Parliament for London North-Centre to discuss federal newcomer funding.
- February 9** With Emily Williams, CEO, and Matthew Reid-Newton, Board Chair, attended a meeting with Arielle Kayabaga, Member of Parliament for London West to discuss federal newcomer funding.
- February 15** Attended the Ontario Public Health Standards Review Table meeting.

Attended the monthly one-on-one meeting with the Board Chair.

Attended the February Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting.

Attended the February Board of Health meeting.

This report was prepared by the Medical Officer of Health.



Alexander Summers, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

This report refers to the following principle(s) set out in Policy G-490, Appendix A:

- The Good Governance and Management Practices Domain as outlined in the [Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability](#).

This topic has been reviewed to be in alignment with goals under the Middlesex-London Health Unit's [Anti-Black Racism Plan](#) and [Taking Action for Reconciliation](#), specifically the Governance and Leadership (ABRP) section.