

CORRESPONDENCE – July 2022

a) **Date:** June 9, 2022

Topic: Response to COVID-19 – April 2022 Update (Item HL36.1) (see Part 10 of the Toronto Board of Health’s decision on page 2 which is addressed to all Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies)

From: Toronto Board of Health

To: Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Background:

On June 9, 2022, the Toronto Board of Health sent via email a notice of adoption of Item HL36.1 as amended at its April 11, 2022 meeting. Part 9 of this item included a request to “the Province of Ontario to work with relevant stakeholders and communities to expand the collection of sociodemographic data in the health system (which may include, for example, optimizing the linkage of existing Census data with health data) to ensure that resources are deployed to the populations with the greatest need and to ensure equitable and culturally-safe access to health and social services.” Forwarding Part 9 to all Boards of Health in Ontario was included as Item 10.

Recommendation: Endorse.

b) **Date:** June 21, 2022

Topic: Healthy Babies Healthy Children Funding

From: Dr. Penny Sutcliffe, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Sudbury & Districts

To: Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services

Background:

On June 21, 2022, Dr. Penny Sutcliffe wrote to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services to request, as carried by the Board of Health, that the Ministry to review base-funding needs for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program to ensure this essential program is sufficiently resourced to meet the current and growing needs of children and a healthy start in life.

Recommendation: Endorse.

c) **Date:** June 21, 2022

Topic: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Units 2020 and 2021 Annual Report

From: Anita Dubeau, Chair, Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit

To: Ontario Boards of Health

Background:

On June 21, 2022, Chair Anita Dubeau shared the link to Simcoe Muskoka District Health

Unit's [2020 & 2021 Annual Report](#), which highlights the SMDHU's work and accomplishments in 2020 and 2021. Most of their work over the two years of the report was concentrated on the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which had a significant impact on the delivery of regular public health services and programs. Priority programs were maintained with restricted capacity, which are also highlighted in the report.

Recommendation: Receive.

City Clerk's Office

Secretariat
Julie Amoroso, Board Secretary
Toronto Board of Health
Toronto City Hall, 10th Floor, West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-397-4592
Fax: 416-392-1879
E-mail: boh@toronto.ca
Web: www.toronto.ca/council

June 9, 2022

SENT VIA E-MAIL

To: Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Subject: Response to COVID-19 - April 2022 Update (Item HL36.1) (see Part 10 of the Toronto Board of Health's decision on page 2 which is addressed to all Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies)

The Toronto Board of Health, during its meeting on April 11, 2022, adopted [Item HL36.1](#), as amended, and:

1. Expressed its full support to the Medical Officer of Health to implement additional measures to address the harm of COVID-19, as needed.
2. Requested the Medical Officer of Health, in partnership with Ontario Health and the City's community and health sector partners, to accelerate the integration of the delivery of on-site COVID-19 vaccination, testing, treatment, and health and social services.
3. Requested the Medical Officer of Health to continue using the VaxTO program for the COVID-19 3rd- and 4th-dose campaign, and to scale up live calling in support of vaccine booster dose uptake.
4. Requested the Province of Ontario to re-enable local Medical Officers of Health to issue letters of instruction as part of the local toolkit to reduce the impact of COVID-19 and help keep people safe.
5. Requested the Medical Officer of Health to implement a public health promotion campaign to inform the public of COVID-19 risks and provide guidance for risk mitigation.
6. Requested the Medical Officer of Health and the Province of Ontario to provide additional focused guidance to help the public discern how best to employ layers of protection against COVID-19 and to provide support to those at greatest risk for severe outcomes from COVID-19, including priority access to testing, personal protective equipment, and other resources to support safer public interactions.

7. Requested the Medical Officer of Health to explore innovative and accessible ways to use data to communicate with the public to enable informed decisions about how best to mitigate the risk of COVID-19.
8. Requested the Ministry of Health and Ontario Health to work with Toronto Public Health, primary care, pharmacies, other health care practitioners, and any other relevant stakeholders, to facilitate access to and increase appropriate uptake of COVID-19 treatments, incorporating core elements such as:
 - a. an information campaign to raise awareness among health care providers and the public of the availability of this effective treatment;
 - b. resources to support health care providers and the public to use available COVID-19 treatments; and
 - c. a strategy to leverage existing community vaccine distribution infrastructure to ensure effective, equitable access to COVID-19 treatment.
9. Requested the Province of Ontario to work with relevant stakeholders and communities to expand the collection of sociodemographic data in the health system (which may include, for example, optimizing the linkage of existing Census data with health data) to ensure that resources are deployed to the populations with the greatest need and to ensure equitable and culturally-safe access to health and social services.
10. Forwarded Part 9 above, concerning the collection of sociodemographic data, to all Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies.
11. Requested the Medical Officer of Health to provide public reporting on, and consider for potential inclusion in dashboard changes, the following:
 - a. COVID-19 related hospitalizations among school-aged children and youth;
 - b. transmission of COVID-19 in schools; and
 - c. health workforce absentee data.

To view this item and background information online, please visit:
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2022.HL36.1>.

Yours sincerely,



Julie Amoroso
Board Secretary
Toronto Board of Health

Sent (via e-mail) to the following Boards of Health in Ontario and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies:

- Algoma Public Health Board of Health, c/o Mayor Sally Hagman, Chair
- Brant County Board of Health, c/o Councillor John Bell, Chair
- Chatham-Kent Board of Health, c/o Councillor Joe Faas, Chair
- City of Hamilton Board of Health, c/o Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Chair
- Durham Region Board of Health (Health and Social Services Committee), c/o John Henry, Durham Regional Chair
- Eastern Ontario Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Councillor Syd Gardiner, Chair
- Grey Bruce Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Sue Paterson, Chair
- Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Kristal Chopp, Chair
- Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Councillor Doug Elmslie, Chair
- Halton Region Board of Health (Regional Council), c/o Gary Carr, Halton Regional Chair
- Hastings Prince Edward Public Health Board of Health, c/o Mayor Jo-Anne Albert, Chair
- Huron Perth Public Health Board of Health, c/o Councillor Kathy Vassilakos, Chair
- Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington Public Health Board of Health, c/o Deputy Warden and Mayor, Denis Doyle, Chair
- Lambton County Board of Health (County Council), c/o County Warden and Mayor, Kevin Marriott, Chair
- Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Doug Malanka, Chair
- Middlesex-London Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Councillor Maureen Cassidy, Chair
- Niagara Region Board of Health (Regional Council), c/o Jim Bradley, Regional Chair
- North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Nancy Jacko, Chair
- Northwestern Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Doug Lawrance, Chair
- Ottawa Board of Health, c/o Councillor Keith Egli, Chair
- Peterborough Public Health Board of Health, c/o Deputy Warden and Mayor Andy Mitchell, Chair
- Porcupine Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Sue Perras, Chair
- Public Health Sudbury & Districts Board of Health, c/o Councillor René Lapierre, Chair
- Region of Peel Board of Health (Regional Council), c/o Nando Iannicca, Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer
- Region of Waterloo Board of Health (Region of Waterloo Council), c/o Karen Redman, Regional Chair
- Renfrew County and District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Ann Aikens, Chair
- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Deputy Mayor and Councillor Anita Dubeau, Chair
- Southwestern Public Health Board of Health (Oxford, Elgin and St. Thomas), c/o Warden Larry Martin, Chair
- Thunder Bay District Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Councillor James McPherson, Chair
- Timiskaming Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Mayor Carman Kidd, Chair

- Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Board of Health, c/o Mayor and Councillor George Bridge, Chair
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Board of Health, c/o Warden and Mayor Gary McNamara, Chair
- York Region Board of Health (York Regional Council), c/o Wayne Emmerson, York Region Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
- Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Association of Local Public Health Agencies, President, COMOH Representative, East Region

cc (via e-mail):

- Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health, Toronto Public Health



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

June 21, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
Government of Ontario
438 University Avenue, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Dear Honourable Minister:

Re: Healthy Babies Healthy Children Funding

The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts remains wholly committed to the critical Healthy Babies Healthy Children program, however, has longstanding and increasing concerns about the Board's ability to meet clients' growing needs with current program funding. Please be advised that at its meeting on June 16, 2022, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts carried the following resolution #19-22:

THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts request the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) to review base-funding needs for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program to ensure this essential program is sufficiently resourced to meet the current and growing needs of children and a healthy start in life.

The Board of Health recognizes that the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program provides a critical prevention/early intervention program and is designed to ensure that all Ontario families with children (prenatal to age six) who are at risk of physical, cognitive, communicative, and/or psychosocial problems have access to effective, consistent, early intervention services. Since 1997 the province has committed to resourcing the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program at 100%. Unfortunately, the HBHC budget has not been increased since 2015, resulting in significant erosion in capacity due to fixed cost increases such as collective agreement commitments and steps on salary grids, travel and accommodation costs, and operational and administrative costs.

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON P0M 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



This has been further compounded by the increased intensity of need in our communities pre-dating but further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HBHC program has made every effort to mitigate the effects of the funding shortfalls over the years and to protect programming. The program, however, is not sustainable and significant service reductions will be required without increased to base funding.

It remains our priority to ensure that the HBHC program can effectively identify and support children and families most in need throughout the Sudbury/Manitoulin District. To this effect, we are submitting a revised 2022/23 HBHC program budget based on current needs and requesting consideration by the Ministry staff.

The Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts is respectfully requesting the Minister's commitment to carefully review base-funding needs for the HBHC program to ensure this essential program is sufficiently resourced to meet the current and growing needs of children and a healthy start in life.

Thank you for your attention to this important public health issue.

Sincerely,



Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health
Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, Chair, Governing Council of Provincial Council for
Maternal and Child Health
Sanober Diaz, Executive Director of Provincial Council for Maternal and Child
Health