



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Bryna Warshawsky, Acting Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2013 January 17

**ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ACTIVITY REPORT –
DECEMBER 6, 2012 – JANUARY 9, 2013**

Recommendation

It is recommended that Report No. 013-13 re “Acting Medical Officer of Health Activity Report - December 6, 2012 – January 9, 2013” be received for information.

The following report highlights activities of the Acting Medical Officer of Health from December 6, 2012 to January 9, 2013. It is divided into activities related to the role of Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, and activities related to the role of the Associate Medical Officer of Health / Director, Oral Health, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health Services.

Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

As directed at the December 13 Board of Health meeting, a Vox Pop from the Board Chair was submitted to the London Free Press but was not accepted for publication. A meeting with the Editors of the London Free Press is being organized to discuss the relationship with this important media outlet.

Work continues on the Shared Services Review in collaboration with Mr. John Millson, Director, Finance and Operations; Mr. Rick Shantz, Director, Information Technology; and Ms. Louise Tyler, Director Human Resources and Labour Relations. A meeting was held on December 10 with PricewaterhouseCoopers staff members from London and Toronto to review the first draft of the project plan. Subsequent revisions have been made to the plan which is being presented for approval by the Board of Health at this meeting (see [Report No. 002-13](#)). Meetings have also been held with representatives from the City of London and Middlesex County to inform them of the project plan.

Other activities related to this role have included:

- **Community and Health Unit Events / Meetings:**
 - **Warden’s Inaugural Meeting:** Attended with Mr. John Millson, Director, Finance and Operations (December 6);
 - **Retirement party for Ms. Bonnie Wooten, Manager in Family Health Services:** Ms. Wooten retired after 12 years of service to the Health Unit (December 13);
 - **Meeting regarding community development demonstration initiative to support children’s mental health:** Participated in this meeting with researchers from Western University along with Ms. Diane Bewick, Director, Family Health Services and Ms. Christine Preece, Manager, Young Adult Team (January 8);
 - **Organizational Health and Vitality Strategic Achievement Group:** Chaired a session of this committee, which consists of Health Unit Directors, to continue work on this element of the Strategic Plan (January 9).

Associate Medical Officer of Health / Director, Oral Health, Communicable Disease and Sexual Health

Considerable time over the past month has been spent providing support to the Infectious Disease Control Team as they respond to the large amount of influenza in the community (see [Report No. 012-13](#)). From the start of the influenza season to January 7, 2013, the Infectious Disease Control Team has assisted in the management of 30 outbreaks in hospitals, nursing homes, retirement homes and assisted living facilities. There has been intense activity over the holiday season, on some occasions requiring two staff members to provide on call coverage. The Associate Medical Officer of Health has also been on call over the holiday season.

The Associate Medical Officer of Health has also spent a significant amount of time working with Ms. Marlene Price, Manager, Vaccine Preventable Disease, to update the medical directives pertaining to immunizations. Medical Directives are written documents that provide authorization for the Public Health Nurses to provide immunizations. As significant changes to the Canadian Immunization Guide were released in early December 2012, revision of the Health Unit's medical directives was required to reflect these changes.

Other activities of the Associate Medical Officer of Health include:

- **Infection Control Meetings** were attended as follows:
 - **City-wide Infection Control Committee** – For London Health Sciences Centre and St. Joseph's Health Care London (December 14);
 - **Middlesex Hospital Alliance** –For Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital and Four Counties Health Services (December 18 – via teleconference)
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- **Presentations:**
 - **Vaccine Preventable Disease Team** – Changes to the Canadian Immunization Guide (December 18);
 - **Community Medicine Seminar** – Presentation to third year medical students on the role of the Medical Officer of Health (January 9).
- **HIV Medications for Post-Exposure Management:** Held a second meeting of a community group to develop a plan to provide appropriate medication to prevent HIV in a timely manner after a blood-borne exposure (December 14).

On call coverage for Sarnia- Lambton Community Health Services Department:

The Acting Medical Officer of Health and Dr. David Colby, Medical Officer of Health for the Chatham Kent Public Health Unit (who also provides on call coverage at the Middlesex-London Health Unit), have been asked to provide on call coverage for the Sarnia-Lambton Community Health Services Department from February 6 to 26, 2013 while Sarnia-Lambton's Medical Officer of Health is away.



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Acting Medical Officer of Health