



TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health

FROM: Graham L. Pollett, MD, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

DATE: 2012 September 13

2012 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Health endorse the 2012 Emergency Response Plan.

Background

The Ontario Public Health Standards – Emergency Preparedness Protocol (requirements #2 and #3 – attached as [Appendix A](#)) requires the development of a current emergency response and continuity of operations plan. This plan has been prepared under the direction of Ms. Pat Simone, Manager, Emergency Preparedness. The Executive Summary of the Emergency Response Plan is attached as [Appendix B](#).

Recognizing that any municipal emergency has a strong potential for having a public health component, the Emergency Response Plan addresses the role of Health Unit staff in the event of an emergency involving the Health Unit office, or if there is an emergency in the community. This document is a mix of emergency information and management protocols and serves as the foundation for staff training, awareness, exercises/drills, using the Incident Management System and for community support.

The plan incorporates legislated mandates and authority and the format is consistent with municipal recommendations set forth by Emergency Management Ontario (EMO) in the Community Emergency Managers Handbook (2009), and in the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (1990). This version is also compliant with the Canadian Standard Association Z1600 “Emergency Management and Business Continuity Programs” and the Ontario Hospital Association’s Emergency Management Toolkit. It also complements and includes the emergency plans for Middlesex County and the City of London.

The following key issues are addressed:

- 1) Municipal Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (HIRA)
- 2) Community Emergency Response Volunteers (CERV)
- 3) Emergency Colour Code nomenclature
- 4) The Health Unit Fan-Out Chart
- 5) Municipal Evacuation Centres
- 6) Incident Management System
- 7) Health Unit Fact Sheets and Policies

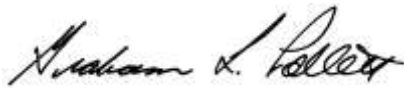
Next Steps

The Emergency Response Plan is being distributed to each service area and to all members of the Non-Union Management Team. All Health Unit staff will receive the Executive Summary.

Pending Board of Health endorsement, the plan will be posted to the Health Unit's website and to the Intranet. Copies will also be provided to the Community Emergency Management Co-ordinators (CEMC) for Middlesex County and the City of London and to the regional Field Officer from EMO.

A complete copy of the Emergency Response Plan will be circulated at the September 13, 2012, Board of Health meeting.

This Report was prepared by Ms. Patricia Simone, Manager, Emergency Preparedness.



Graham L. Pollett, MD, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

This report addresses the following requirement(s) of the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines:

The Ontario Public Health Standards – Emergency Preparedness Protocol (requirement #2 and #3)