



Ottawa Board of Health

Minutes

Meeting #: 26
Date: November 7, 2022
Time: 5:00 pm
Location: Champlain Room, 110 Laurier Avenue West, and by electronic participation

Present: Chair: Councillor Keith Egli, Vice-Chair: Tammy DeGiovanni, Member Elyse Banham, Member Jean Cloutier, Member Eli El-Chantiry, Member Glen Gower, Member Theresa Kavanagh, Member Lewis Leikin, Member Shawn Menard, Member Suzanne Pinel, Member Peter Tilley

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1. Notices and meeting information for meeting participants and the public
Please see the attached document for public notices and meeting information, including: availability of simultaneous interpretation and accessibility accommodations; *in camera* meeting procedures; processes and timelines for

written and oral submissions; personal information disclaimer for correspondents and public speakers; notices regarding minutes; and remote participation details.

This draft Minutes document contains a summary of the disposition of items and actions taken at the meeting. This document does not include all of the text that will be included in the final Minutes, such as the record of written and oral submissions. Recorded votes and dissents contained in this draft Minutes document are draft until the Minutes of the meeting are confirmed by the Board of Health. The final draft Minutes will be published with the agenda for the next regular Board meeting and, once confirmed, will replace this document.

2. Roll Call

All members participated.

3. Regrets

No regrets were filed.

4. Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were filed.

5. Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of minutes of the meeting of September 19, 2022.

Carried

6. Communications

Five communication items have been received (held on file with the Board of Health Secretary).

7. Motion to Introduce Reports

Motion No. BOH 26/01

Moved by Member J. Cloutier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chair of the Board of Health Verbal Report, the Medical Officer of Health Verbal Report, and the reports titled: Ottawa Public Health Submission to the Government of Canada on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation in Canada; Ontario Public Health Standards - 2022 Activity Reports - Risk Management; Ontario Ministry of Health Accountability and Reporting Requirements – Q2 2022 Standard Activity

Report; Ottawa Public Health's Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 – Update from Quarter Three of 2022; Building a Healthier Ottawa: Ottawa Public Health Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 – End of Term Report, be received and considered.

Carried

7.1 Chair of the Board of Health Verbal Report

File ACS2022-OPH-BOH-0010 – City-wide

In his verbal report, Chair Egli expressed his appreciation for Dr. Etches and the entire OPH team and thanked his Board colleagues for their insights, guidance, leadership and support over the past four years. He congratulated Mayor-elect Sutcliffe and all newly elected and re-elected Members of Council as well as all those who put their names forward in the recent municipal election. He also took the opportunity to remind people of the importance of getting their flu shot as we head into the fall and winter.

He ended by noting that COVID-19 is not over and he reminded everyone that there are things we can all do to protect ourselves and those around us.

The Board then voted to receive the Chair's Verbal Report. Discussions on this item lasted approximately 5 minutes.

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this verbal report for information.

Received

7.2 Medical Officer of Health Verbal Report

File ACS2022-OPH-MOH-0009 – City-wide

Dr. Etches began her verbal report with an update on the respiratory season as we head into winter and by strongly recommending mask use in confined spaces and in crowded settings. She noted that adults can be an example for children and youth in this regard. She reported that our COVID-19 wastewater virus detection levels are high and per cent positivity is very high. With respect to influenza, she noted that we had reported our first outbreak here in Ottawa about a month earlier than usual and that last week marked the start of the influenza season, with percent

positivity rising quickly. She indicated that Ottawa is also seeing increasing RSV activity, particularly among children. Finally, she reported that CHEO has flagged unprecedented volumes of infants and children with respiratory symptoms from various viruses.

Dr. Etches then provided updates on OPH activities to promote Children's Vision Month (October), work with partners, including the Kids Come First Health Team and other community partners, to explore options for access to childhood routine immunization, OPH's work to monitor the cost of basic healthy eating in Ottawa and the collection of data using the Nutritious Food Basket survey tool, and the expansion of our Neighbourhood Health and Wellness Hubs to 15 locations across the city, in collaboration with City and community partners.

In closing, she reflected on how Board has shaped our work over the last four years and she thanked Board Members for the time they put into reading reports, asking questions, considering priorities and putting forward motions.

In the context of Dr. Etches' Verbal Report, the Board heard from two (2) public delegations:

- Dr. Lindy Samson, CHEO
- Mr. Greg Macdougall, resident

The Board then approved Motion 26/02, introduced by Vice-Chair DeGiovanni.

The Board then voted to received the Medical Officer of Health's Verbal Report. Discussions on this item lasted approximately 45 minutes.

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this verbal report for information.

Received

Motion No. BOH 26/02

Moved by Vice-Chair: T. DeGiovanni

WHEREAS at its meeting of November 7, 2022, the Ottawa Board of Health received an update from Ottawa's Medical Officer of Health with respect to local COVID-19 rates that continue to be high;

AND WHEREAS the Medical Officer of Health also noted that other respiratory viruses are circulating concurrently, such as influenza and RSV, which contribute to the significant pressures felt by local hospitals;

AND WHEREAS healthcare providers at CHEO, in particular, have flagged unprecedented volumes of infants and children with respiratory symptoms from various viruses, challenging the provision of care;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health has also recently publicly expressed concerns that the health system will see a "triple threat" of COVID-19, a bad influenza season and the resurgence of RSV in children this fall and winter, stressed the importance of vaccination and suggested that mask mandates could be brought back in order to help control transmission of respiratory illnesses;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chair of the Board of Health write to the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health to request:

- That the Ministry of Health publicly release information on data and projections for this fall and winter's respiratory illness season and the impact it could have on the public's health and our health care system so that residents can better understand the risks and rationale for starting to wear masks again, to protect themselves and their loved ones and to maintain access to critical care through this exceptional respiratory season;
- That the Ministry of Health intensify the visibility and reach of a mass health communications campaign to explain the benefits of COVID-19 and flu vaccination and masking and to strongly encourage their use; and
- That provincial messaging include information about other measures for limiting the impact of respiratory illnesses on our health care system, such as staying home when sick and how to access treatment, such as Paxlovid, for those at greatest risk.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this motion and the Chair's letter be shared with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO).

Carried

7.3 Ottawa Public Health Submission to the Government of Canada on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation in Canada

File ACS2022-OPH-HPP-0003 – City-wide

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit approve the Medical Officer of Health's submission to the Government of Canada's consultation on the legalization and regulation of cannabis in Canada, as outlined in Document 1.

Carried

7.4 Ontario Public Health Standards - 2022 Activity Reports - Risk Management

File ACS2022-OPH-KPQ-0006 – City-wide

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this report for information.

Received

7.5 Ontario Ministry of Health Accountability and Reporting Requirements – Q2 2022 Standard Activity Report

File ACS2022-OPH-KPQ-0004 – City-wide

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this report for information.

Received

7.6 Ottawa Public Health's Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 – Update from Quarter Three of 2022

File ACS2022-OPH-KPQ-0005 – City-wide

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this report for information.

Received

7.7 Protecting our Community's Health: Ottawa Public Health 2019–2022 Strategy – End of Term Report

File ACS2022-OPH-MOH-0010 – City-wide

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive this report for information.

Received

8. Information Previously Distributed

8.1 Monitoring Food Affordability in Ottawa: 2022 Nutritious Food Basket

File ACS2022-OPH-COP-0001 – City-wide

9. In Camera Items*

NOTICE*

In Camera Items are not subject to public discussion or audience. Any person has a right to request an independent investigation of the propriety of dealing with matters in a closed session. A form requesting such a review may be obtained, without charge, from the City's website or in person from the Chair of this meeting. Requests are kept confidential pending any report by the Meetings Investigator and are conducted without charge to the Requestor.

10. Motion to Adopt Reports

Motion No. BOH 26/03

Moved by Member J. Cloutier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chair of the Board of Health Verbal Report, the Medical Officer of Health Verbal Report, and the reports titled: Ottawa Public Health Submission to the Government of Canada on Cannabis Legalization and Regulation in Canada; Ontario Public Health Standards - 2022 Activity Reports - Risk Management; Ontario Ministry of Health Accountability and Reporting Requirements – Q2 2022 Standard Activity Report; Ottawa Public Health's Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 – Update from

Quarter Three of 2022; Building a Healthier Ottawa: Ottawa Public Health Strategic Plan 2019 – 2022 – End of Term Report, be received and adopted.

Carried

11. Motions Requiring Suspension of the Rules of Procedure

There were no Motions requiring suspension of the rules.

12. Notices of Motions (For Consideration at Subsequent Meeting)

There were no Notices of Motion (for consideration at a subsequent meeting).

13. Confirmation By-law

Motion No. BOH 26/04

Moved by Member J. Cloutier

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Confirmation By-law no. 2022-6, a by-law of the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit to confirm the proceedings of the Ottawa Board of Health at its meeting of November 7, 2022, be read and passed.

Carried

14. Inquiries

There were no inquiries filed.

15. Adjournment

The Board adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

16. Next Meeting

To be determined

Original signed by
D. Blais, Board Secretary

Original signed by
Councillor K. Egli, Board Chair