

MEMO / NOTE DE SERVICE

TO: Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit

DESTINATAIRE : Conseil de santé de la circonscription sanitaire de la ville d'Ottawa

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SUBJECT: **CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH VERBAL REPORT**

OBJET : **RAPPORT VERBAL DU PRÉSIDENT DU CONSEIL DE SANTÉ**

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Good evening and welcome to the first official Board of Health (BOH) Meeting.

Bonsoir mesdames et messieurs. Bienvenue à la première réunion du Conseil de santé d'Ottawa.

Je suis heureux d'être le président du Conseil de Santé.

I am honoured and privileged for the opportunity to work with you as the new Chair of the Ottawa BOH for the next four years.

I wish to thank former Chair Diane Holmes and the inaugural Board members for their years of leadership and guidance during the first term of the Board.

The Ottawa BOH is made up of individuals who have varying backgrounds of experience and knowledge. But we all come to the table with a common goal - to ensure a voice for the public and to continue to enhance the health and welfare of the community in working with Ottawa Public Health (OPH). I wish to take this opportunity to highlight our public Board members and their achievements.

Mr. Peter Tilley – Peter served as the Executive Director of the Ottawa Food Bank for 14 years until taking on his role as Executive Director, in 2013, of the Ottawa Mission. Peter teaches a course during the weekends at Algonquin College-Introduction to Non Profit Management. It is my pleasure to welcome Peter to the BOH.

Next Dr. Kapur- Atul Kapur is a physician in the Department of Emergency Medicine at The Ottawa Hospital. Dr. Kapur was Vice-Chair of the BOH from 2010 to 2014. He currently sits on a number of health-related committees such as the Board of Directors for the Ontario Medical Association and the Canadian Medical Association. Dr Kapur has participated in a number of selected health publications. Pleased to welcome Dr. Kapur back to the BOH.

Dr. Lewis Leikin, Doctor of psychology, clinical professor of psychology at the University of Ottawa and staff psychologist at Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Dr. Leikin currently sits on the Jewish Federation of Ottawa: Independent Task Force and has participated in a number of medical publications. After reviewing Dr. Leikin's astute bio I have to say my favourite part was the conclusion where he recognises "really important stuff"-his two children, three grandchildren and an embarrassing number of bikes, skis and hockey sticks. Welcome Dr. Leikin.

Jo-Anne Poirier is no stranger to City Hall. In 1993 Jo-Anne was the Commissioner of Client Services department until '96 when she became the Deputy City Manager. Jo-Anne has received a number of acclamations and awards for her commitment and contributions. In 2012 she received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and Over 50s Housing Award. Jo-Anne spent five very successful years as the Chief Executive Officer of Ottawa Community Housing-the second largest housing provider in Ontario. In 2014 the Victorian Order of Nurses Canada caught Jo-Anne's eye where she is now the President and Chief Executive Officer. I have had the privilege of working

with Jo-Anne on the board of Crime Prevention Ottawa for three years. It is my sincere pleasure welcome Jo-Anne to the BOH.

Suzanne Pinel – holds a degree in nursing sciences from Ottawa University and a diploma in Public Health. For the past six years Suzanne has been an appointed member of the board of La Cité collégiale, serving as Chair of the Governance and Nomination committee. She worked as a clinical instructor in Paediatrics and Psychology of Growth and Development at the Ottawa General Ottawa University School of Nursing and was a part time teacher at Algonquin College in their "Conseillers en déficience mentale". Suzanne has sat on several boards including the CHEO Foundation and the Board of the Canadian Institute of Child Health. Bienvenue Madame Pinel- c'est un plaisir de vous avoir ici.

La communication est importante. S'il vous plaît sachez que je vais continuer à travailler pour améliorer ma capacité de parler en français.

There is important work to be done over the coming months and years. OPH is steadfast in its commitment to deliver high quality programs and services. Santé publique Ottawa attends avec impatience de travailler ensemble avec les partenaires communautaires dans le but d'optimiser nos efforts continus sur le long terme. OPH looks forward to working together with community partners with the goal of optimizing our continued efforts over the long-term. OPH will focus on sustaining services and addressing emerging community needs and public health risks

The Ottawa BOH plays a key role in working with OPH to identify the needs and well being of the city as a whole. Together we will continue to work to identify and address the health needs of the community through a range of programs and services. Public health plays an important role in the community on so many different levels; through promoting a healthier population, responding to threats of the public and by extension-reducing demand on the health care system.

It is my responsibility as an elected official and Chair of BOH to demonstrate a commitment to a healthy community by providing leadership and decision-making that considers health and well-being in policy decisions and planning as well as in the type of partnerships that are developed and maintained. I look forward to working with OPH, community partners, my fellow Board members – with the goal of optimizing health of our community over the long term.

Also, I wanted to note that the Honourable Yasir Naqvi has sent letters of congratulations to all Board members. As many of you will recall, Minister Naqvi was

instrumental in the tabling and passage of Bill 16, which established a new governance model for the Board, and made amendments to the *City of Ottawa Act*. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Minister Naqvi for sending these letters, which I will be sharing with the Board Members.

A major duty of this Board will be setting the strategic priorities for OPH for the next years. This coming Friday, the Board will begin discussions about the strategic directions, which will guide the BOH for the next four years. Over the past year, OPH has collected input - from staff, the public, community partners, as well as considered health data and key sources of literature, to guide the development of strategic priority areas. I look forward to this discussion and anticipate that the Board's strategic planning will be presented at the next Board of Health meeting in April.

Maintenant, c'est mon plaisir de vous présenter le docteur Levy, Médecin chef en santé publique. Now it is my pleasure to pass the floor to Dr. Levy the Medical Officer of Public Health.