

## **Document 1 - Ottawa Public Health's 2015 Annual Report – To Our Community- Script of Video**

### **OUR LEADERSHIP**

#### **Message from Jim Watson, Mayor of Ottawa**

I'm very proud of the great work that public health has done over the past year. Thank you for your dedication to making Ottawa the healthiest city in the country.

#### **Message from Councillor Shad Qadri, Chair of the Ottawa Board of Health**

2015 was a remarkable year for the Board, and for Ottawa Public Health. In 2015, the Board:

- Developed new Strategic Priorities to guide Ottawa Public Health
- Adopted an immunization strategy that aims to increase needles in arms
- The Board approved an innovative trial project called, *OttawaSafe*, a new way to share restaurant inspection results, online; and
- Endorsed OPH's five-point plan to provide Ottawa families, with the right care, at the right time.

#### **Message from Dr. Isra Levy, Medical Officer of Health**

I want to thank all at Ottawa Public Health: our staff, our volunteers, our learners: you are the heroes for health in our community, and your dedication and determination to provide services of the highest quality is deeply appreciated.

I am really pleased also to introduce Ottawa Public Health's 2015 Annual Report through this video.

This report also highlights OPH's on-going work to make Ottawa a safe and healthy community told through the lens of the five mandated program areas.

### **OUR MESSAGE**

Ottawa Public Health's new Strategic Plan, approved by the Board of Health in April 2015, demonstrates our commitment to the vision, mission, and principles underlying the services we provide to all Ottawa residents. This Strategic Plan sets the pace for continued excellence and focused efforts in addressing emerging local public health needs. We look forward to working with community partners to advance our vision.

## OUR WORK

### Family Health

Ottawa Public Health successfully launched the new interactive *Parenting in Ottawa* website and Facebook page. The Facebook page is moderated by a public health nurse and has recruited over 13,000 followers to date. The bilingual *Parenting in Ottawa* website provides parents with local and credible health and safety information and resources.

In addition, Ottawa Public Health developed a new partnership with Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario and CTV which aims to further connect with parents, increase the number of parents that know *Parenting in Ottawa* is their trusted source of information and share valuable health information developed by CHEO and Ottawa Public Health.

OPH by the Numbers:

- 35,500 Screenings (Dental screenings provided in schools and community)
- 58,300 Web Visits (to the Parenting in Ottawa Website)
- 10,000+ Visits (to prenatal parents and families with children transitioning to school)
- 14,000 Followers (on Parenting in Ottawa Facebook page)
- 5,750 Children (enrolled in the Healthy Smiles Ontario Program)

### Chronic Disease & Injury

***Jo-Anne Poirier, vice-présidente du Conseil de santé d'Ottawa:***

In Ottawa, newcomers enroll in large numbers in English Second Language and Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada programs. Language learning is essential for newcomers' integration and wellbeing.

This past year, Ottawa Public Health partnered with the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board, and the Ottawa Catholic School Board to collaboratively develop Language Learning for Health Lesson Plans.

***Janice Meisner, Public Health Nurse in Health Promotion, Disease Prevention:***

These lesson plans aim to help increase health literacy of newcomers and immigrant residents in Ottawa, by integrating health content into English as a second language and Language instruction for Newcomers to Canada programs. The health lesson

plans are relevant, accurate and appropriate for learners from diverse cultural backgrounds and at different levels of language proficiency.

OPH by the Numbers:

- 7,600 Participants (Annual Walking Day)
- 60 Consultations (promoting the Psychological Health in the Workplace Standards)
- 2,400 Participants (in the Better Strength, Better Balance Program)
- 19% Smoke-Free (Ottawa Community Housing units under no-smoking policy)

### **Infectious Diseases**

#### ***Kira Mandryk, Supervisor of Harm Reduction in Clinical Programs:***

Ottawa Public Health's Site Needle & Syringe Program delivers on its commitment to prevent or reduce the burden of sexually transmitted infections, blood-borne infections and other infectious diseases in Ottawa with a specific focus on those who use drugs.

The relationship we build with clients helps us facilitate access to other needed health and social services, thus helping to reduce infectious diseases in our community.

#### ***Interview with Client:***

It was about three years ago when someone had crashed against my door I opened it up and it was a friend of mine who had done some fentanyl, he basically was turning blue right in front of me. I had been in that situation before but never had Peer Overdose Prevention Program training. Fortunately this time I had it as well as a dose of naloxone which I administered and he was fine, a minute later and I get to see him walking around the city to this day because of this program.

OPH by the Numbers:

- 378,400 Doses (of influenza vaccines delivered to health care professionals)
- 500 Clinics (immunization clinics)
- 17,350 Visits (clinic visits to OPH's Sexual Health Clinic)
- 700 Inspections (cold chain inspections completed)

## **Environmental Health**

### ***Kathryn Downey, Program Manager in Environment & Health Protection:***

In 2015, Ottawa Public Health responded to many requests from the public and City partners for assistance with health hazard investigations. These included on-site assessments and investigations which ensured residents have timely access to information about environmental hazards that could have impacted their health.

Ottawa Public Health's Environmental Health team also proactively provided information, awareness and policy input to residents and community partners about preventing health hazards in the community.

OPH by the Numbers :

- 7, 600 Tests (mosquitoes tested for bacteria and viruses)
- 840 Inspections (Personal Service Settings Inspections)
- 2, 260 Training (Food Handlers trained)
- 11, 000 Inspections (food safety inspections)

## **Emergency Preparedness**

Each year, Ottawa Public Health works with partners to prepare for and respond to health and social emergencies in our community. 2015 was no exception. Ottawa Public Health developed a new Drinking Water Advisory Protocol, which helped coordinate communications and processes among Ottawa Public Health and City partners. The end goal is to ensure residents are aware of any advisories – for this we use traditional and social media and door to door canvassing. Ottawa Public Health also collaborated with community and health agencies, to prepare for potential cases of Ebola Virus Disease in Ottawa.

Finally, Ottawa Public Health led an extreme weather exercise with partners to ensure they were well prepared for a heat emergency. Ottawa Public Health and its partners are prepared to respond to the emerging public health needs of the community and to meet public expectation for an effective and coordinated response.

OPH by the Numbers:

- 110 Nurses (Public Health Nurses educated on emergency health risk assessments)

- 30 Managers (on-call managers trained to operate OPH's new emergency communication system)
- 210 Assessments (returning travelers assessed by OPH for Ebola Virus Disease)

## **OUR THANKS**

### **Thank you to our Funders**

Ottawa Public Health receives the majority of its funding from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. The next largest source of funding is from the City of Ottawa. Thank you to our generous funders.

### **Thank you to our Partners**

***Dr. Carolyn Pim, Deputy Medical Officer of Health***

I would like to take a moment to thank all of our partners and express our gratitude for your continued support and dedication to public health. Our strong partnerships are crucial to our collective success and we thank you for all that you do to create a healthier Ottawa.

### **Thank you to our Volunteers**

***Lola Dubé-Quibell, Coordinator of Volunteer Resources***

Thanking the energetic and dedicated volunteers is a great pleasure. These individuals provide much appreciated support to Ottawa Public Health professionals, programs and services. Thank you.

OPH by the Numbers

- 3,400 Volunteer hours contributed to Ottawa Public Health in 2015

## **OUR REACH**

**January:** Ottawa Public Health joins the Honourable Ontario Associate Minister of Long-Term Care and Wellness Dipika Damerla and eight Eastern Ontario health partners along with smokers and ex-smokers to launch the MyQuit program, an innovative program for smokers living in Eastern Ontario who are looking to quit or reduce their tobacco use.

**February:** Ottawa Public Health provides input on the Stage 1 Light Rail West transit way detour air quality assessment.

**March:** Launch of Parenting in Ottawa, a new interactive online resource for parents created by Ottawa Public Health and its community partners. It was designed to make parenting in Ottawa a little bit easier.

**April:** Ottawa Public Health launches its new Strategic Plan for 2015-2018 which aims to achieve better health for Ottawa residents, support innovation, and build on community partnerships.

**May:** Continuing to promote healthy eating and active living, Chair Qadri, Mayor Jim Watson and Dr. Isra Levy, Medical Officer of Health join an enthusiastic group of high school students in a cook-off to mark Food Revolution Day. This event highlighted the important work of OPH and its partnership with area schools to support the health curriculum, and make healthy eating the easy, affordable and delicious choice.

**June:** OPH, in partnership with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) hosted the 2015 Association of Local Public Health Agencies' Annual Conference entitled *Rethinking Public Health* to look forward and explore key areas of focus and priorities for the public health sector in the future.

**July:** Ottawa Public Health participates in more than 15 community events.

**August:** Ottawa Public Health celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pride by hosting a float with Mayor Jim Watson, Board of Health Chair Councillor Shad Qadri and 7 Councillors and BOH Members.

**September:** Ottawa Public Health launches cutting edge, industry-focused e-learning modules for personal service setting operators and owners including include interactive training, videos and quizzes.

**October:** Mayor Jim Watson and Ottawa Board of Health Member, Councillor Michael Qaqish, join students and staff from St. Jerome Catholic School, Steve MacLean Public School and l'École élémentaire catholique Bernard-Grandmaître to proclaim International Walk (iWALK) to School Week in Ottawa. Parents and staff at the three Riverside South schools worked together with the City of Ottawa, Ottawa Public Health and Green Communities Canada to have a new 40 km/h school speed zone implemented on Spratt Road this past summer.

**November:** Ottawa Public Health receives 100% provincial funding to build a dental clinic at the Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health to provide preventive and treatment services in a culturally safe environment.

**December:** Ottawa Public Health surpasses the New York City Health Department to become the most followed local Public Health unit on Twitter in North America with over 35,000 followers.