



Ottawa Board of Health MINUTES 16

Monday, April 19, 2021, 5:00 PM

By Electronic Participation

Contact for the Ottawa Board of Health:

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Board Members:

Chair: K. Egli

Vice-Chair: T. DeGiovanni

**Members: E. Banham, J. Cloutier, E. El-Chantiry, G. Gower, T. Kavanagh,
L. Leikin, S. Menard, S. Pinel, P. Tilley**

The Ottawa Board of Health met via Zoom on Monday, April 19, 2021 beginning at 5:00 PM.

Councillor Keith Egli, Chair of the Board of Health, presided over the meeting.

ROLL CALL

All members participated.

REGRETS

No regrets were filed.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST (INCLUDING THOSE ORIGINALLY ARISING FROM PRIOR MEETINGS)

No declarations of interest were filed.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Confirmation of minutes of the meeting of February 8, 2021.

CONFIRMED

COMMUNICATIONS

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

MOTION TO INTRODUCE REPORTS

Motion 16/1

Moved by Member Gower

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 2020 Annual Report, Ottawa Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response – 2019-2020, 2020 Budget Year-End Results – Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit Status Report, Delegation of Authority – Contracts Awarded for the Period of July 1 to December 31, 2020, and Participation in the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' (aLPHa) 2021 Annual General Meeting and Conference, be received and considered.

CARRIED

Following a 'Consent Agenda' process, the Board considered the held items in the order in which they appear on the Agenda.

1. CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH VERBAL REPORT

ACS2021-OPH-BOH-0003

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

RECEIVED

In his verbal report, Chair Egli talked about training provided to Members of Council and their staff in March by Ottawa Public Health's (OPH) Mental Health and Substance Use Unit in Stigma: The Power of Language in Supporting your Community. He referenced an interfaith ceremony hosted by Mayor Watson on

March 25th to honour all City of Ottawa residents who have lost their lives to COVID-19. He then talked about the importance for everyone to access the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it becomes available to them, noting that we cannot vaccinate our way out of this third wave.

The discussion on this item lasted approximately 10 minutes. The report was then received by the Board. The attached memo includes the Chair's Verbal Update.

At approximately 6:56 p.m., during discussions on the Medical Officer of Health's Verbal Report, the Board approved a motion to extend the time of the meeting beyond 7:00 p.m.

Motion 16/2

Moved by Member Gower

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health approve that the meeting time be extended past 7:00 p.m. pursuant to Subsection 8(1)(c) of the *Procedural By-law*.

CARRIED

2. MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH VERBAL REPORT

ACS2021-OPH-MOH-0002

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

RECEIVED, as amended by Motion 16/3

As part of her verbal report, Dr. Etches provided updates on: OPH's work with Ontario Health Teams; the local COVID-19 situation in Ottawa, including

outreach to some of the communities most impacted by the pandemic; and the local COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Lastly, she spoke briefly about a Section 22 order mandating mask use and physical distancing in and near playgrounds.

Following Dr. Etches' Verbal Report, the Board of Health heard from the following public delegations on the need to prioritize vaccine access to front-line and essential workers and those most at risk:

- Donna Mortimer, CUPE Local 2204
- Cynthia Hadden, resident
- Michèle René de Cotret, présidente, Conseil d'administration - Andrew Fleck Children's Services
- Velvet LeClair, Child Care Now Ottawa
- Kim Rogers, Cupe Local 2204 and Childcare Now Ottawa
- Adam Kulla, resident
- Kathryn Desplanque, resident
- Mohamed Miguil, resident
- Jessica Scallen, resident
- Andréanne Chénier, National Representative, Health and Safety, CUPE
- Chris Lee, SEIU Local 2
- Kathleen Arsenault, Ottawa Child Care Now
- Tara Shapransky, Ottawa Child Care Now
- Sam Hersh, Horizon Ottawa
- Manal Ghali, Child Care Now Ottawa
- Bethany Leonard, resident
- Mae Mason, resident
- Kyla Tanne, resident
- Julia Hamer, resident
- Michelle Arruda, Unifor
- Erin Sirett, resident
- Kerry Leigh Boyd, resident
- Catherine McKenney, Councillor
- Nathan Prier, resident
- Greg Macdougall, resident

The Board also received the following written submissions, which were circulated to Board Members in advance of the meeting and are held on file with

the Board of Health Secretary:

1. Horizon Ottawa (on prioritizing front-line workers).
2. Marianne Connors, resident (on Provincial restrictions)
3. Rachel Jobson, resident (on Provincial restrictions)
4. Sabrina Gannon, resident (on paid sick days, prioritizing vaccines for essential workers, and vaccine distribution to “hot spots”)
5. Heather Kerr-Gauthier, resident (on prioritizing child care workers)
6. Rebecca Stanisic, resident (on prioritizing essential workers)
7. Vanessa Sung, resident (on vaccination and outdoor recreational spaces)
8. Shirtley Guertin, resident (against pandemic measures)
9. Georginana Ayigah, resident (on prioritizing child care workers)
10. Danielle Belisle, resident (against pandemic measures)
11. Rose Anne Cotter, resident (on prioritizing child care workers)
12. Ryan Pepper, resident (on vaccinating front-line workers)
13. Lenda Mach, resident (on Provincial restrictions)
14. Stephanie Kirkey, President, Teachers’ Bargaining Unit, OSSTF/FEESO District 25 (on prioritizing front-line workers)
15. Rachel MacKnight, resident (on prioritizing essential workers)
16. Shelley Murdock, resident (on prioritizing essential workers)
17. Katy Sinha, resident and business owner (against pandemic measures)
18. Tanya Zabroka, resident (against pandemic measures)
19. Elizabeth Jones, resident, (against pandemic measures)

Mr. Anthony Di Monte, General Manager and Emergency and Protective Services, and Ottawa Police Chief Peter Sloly both joined the Board of Health meeting in order to hear the discussions and help answer questions on the vaccine rollout and issues surrounding enforcement.

Following her verbal update and the public delegations, Dr. Etches, Mr. Di Monte and Chief Sloly responded to questions from Board Members. The discussion on this item lasted approximately 4 hours and 15 minutes. The report was then

received by the Board, as amended by Motion 16/3. The attached memo includes the Medical Officer of Health's Verbal Update.

Motion 16/3

Moved by Vice-Chair DeGiovanni

WHEREAS the goals of the Pandemic response are to limit hospitalizations and death and to minimize societal disruption; and

WHEREAS the closure of schools is intended to reinforce the importance of families adhering to the Stay At Home Order to control the growth of variants of concern and to flatten the curve, though we recognize that schools are essential for the well-being and healthy development children and youth; and

WHEREAS rapid growth in the number of people testing positive for COVID-19, hospitalizations, and ICU admissions continue to the point where the health system is challenged to keep up; and

WHEREAS COVID-19 transmission continues to occur in a wide variety of workplaces that provide products other than food, medicine and services essential to health and safety; and

WHEREAS public health experts agree that in order to curb current rates and transmission and lessen the burden on our healthcare sector, all non-essential businesses and workplaces should be closed or limited to virtual or remote operations;

WHEREAS enhanced inspection powers would facilitate enforcement of the regulations at places of business;

WHEREAS additional restrictions, at a level beyond the current provincial measures, have been necessary to control the growth of variants of concern now predominant in Ontario, including the closure of non-essential retail settings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit direct its Chair to write to the Premier of Ontario to request the following:

- **That the Premier of Ontario urgently complete a review of all**

businesses and services that continue to have workers at the workplace who cannot work from home and implement changes to ensure that only businesses that provide groceries, medications and products or services essential for health and safety are open and only medically-necessary care is provided for the period of the Stay At Home Order and that workers affected are provided with information on income support options;

- **That the school closure language in Ontario Regulation 82/20 be amended to replace "shall not provide in-person teaching or instruction" with "Schools shall be closed to all students except for..." in order to provide greater clarity and ensure continued remote learning and that students are not attending school in person for activities that do not qualify as "in-person teaching or instruction"; and**
- **That improvements be made to the enforcement provisions under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act 2020* and the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to enhance enforcement officers' ability to enter, investigate and close businesses.**

CARRIED

Direction to Staff:

That the Medical Officer of Health take all the concerns raised by delegations and through written submissions and share these with the Ottawa Vaccine Sequencing Task Force for their consideration as they undertake the work of sequencing essential workers who cannot work from home, which includes childcare workers, education staff and others, in advance of moving to that phase of the local vaccine rollout.

3. OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

ACS2021-OPH-BOH-0004

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

- 1. Receive Ottawa Public Health's 2020 Annual Report; and**
- 2. Approve that it be forwarded to Ottawa City Council for information, in accordance with the City of Ottawa Act, 1999.**

CARRIED

The Board heard from one (1) public delegation:

- Mr. Zach Boissinot, A Foot Above Fitness

The discussion on this item lasted approximately 15 minutes. The Board then voted to approve the report recommendations.

4. OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE – 2019-2020

ACS2021-OPH-HPS-0002

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

RECEIVED

5. 2020 BUDGET YEAR-END RESULTS – BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE CITY OF OTTAWA HEALTH UNIT STATUS REPORT

ACS2021-OPH-PCS-0002

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit receive the 2020 budget year-end results for information.

RECEIVED

6. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY – CONTRACTS AWARDED FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2020

ACS2021-OPH-PCS-0003

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

RECEIVED

7. PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES' (aIPHa) 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

ACS2021-OPH-BOH-0005

That the Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit approve the participation of Members Cloutier and El-Chantiry at the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' (aIPHa) 2021 Annual General Meeting and Conference, to be held virtually on June 8, 2021.

CARRIED

MOTION TO ADOPT REPORTS

Motion 16/4

Moved by Member Gower

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 2020 Annual Report, Ottawa Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response – 2019-2020, 2020 Budget Year-End Results – Board of Health for the City of Ottawa Health Unit Status Report, Delegation of Authority – Contracts Awarded for the Period of July 1 to December 31, 2020, and Participation in the Association of Local Public Health Agencies' (ALPHA) 2021 Annual General Meeting and Conference, be received and adopted.

CARRIED

MOTIONS REQUIRING SUSPENSION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

There were no motions requiring suspension of the rules.

NOTICES OF MOTION (FOR CONSIDERATION AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING)

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

CONFIRMATION BY-LAW

Motion 16/5

Moved by Member Gower

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Confirmation By-law no. 2021-2, 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 April 19, 2021, be read and passed.

CARRIED

INQUIRIES

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:53 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting

Monday, June 21, 2021 - 5:00 PM

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD CHAIR