

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Ottawa Board of Health
Conseil de santé d'Ottawa
20 September 2021 / 20 septembre 2021**

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**Submitted by
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Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA VILLE File Number: ACS2021-OPH-KPQ-0004

**SUBJECT: OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH'S STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2019-2022 –
UPDATE FROM QUARTER TWO OF 2021**

**OBJET: PLAN STRATÉGIQUE DE SANTÉ PUBLIQUE OTTAWA POUR 2019-
2022 – MISE À JOUR DU DEUXIÈME TRIMESTRE 2021**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

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

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Conseil de santé de la circonscription sanitaire de la ville d'Ottawa prenne connaissance de ce rapport à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

[Protecting Our Community's Health: Ottawa Public Health's 2019-2022 Strategy](#) was approved by the Board of Health in June of 2019 and updated in September 2020, with progress reports provided quarterly.



DISCUSSION



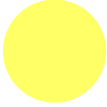
Ottawa Public Health (OPH) has developed a 3–5-year strategy with the approach of implementing the strategy and delivering on its key objectives through focused annual action plans. As noted above, a refresh of the strategy was completed in September 2020, which resulted in the COVID-19 response being built directly into the 2021 strategic action plan. In both Quarter One and now Quarter Two, OPH continues to make positive progress towards implementing its 2021 action plan.

The start of Q2 was among the most challenging times of the pandemic, with the highest rates of COVID-19 ever reported (222 per 100,000). Hospitalization and outbreaks were also at their highest. Variants of Concern (VOC) were now present in Ottawa and allowed the virus to spread more easily and quickly than ever before. In addition, OPH worked with the City of Ottawa to rapidly scale up COVID-19 immunization, which began with a partnership with The Ottawa Hospital in December 2020, when vaccine supply was extremely limited.

However, by the end of Q2, COVID-19 levels in the community dropped significantly and COVID-19 vaccination coverage continued to rise with 79% of Ottawa's eligible population vaccinated with at least one dose and 35% fully vaccinated by the end of this reporting period. OPH and the City of Ottawa continued to help ensure equitable and accessible vaccination to all Ottawa residents and help protect the community against transmission of COVID-19 variants of concern.

At the end of the quarter, using the key performance measures set out in the yearly action plan for its five strategic goals, OPH met its target for goal 3 and was slightly under target for goals 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Goal 1 - Drive innovative approaches to mental health & substance use – Percent of Community Action Plan completed or underway	
Goal 2 - Healthy communities by design – Scoring on COVID-19-wise behaviours, control, and vaccine uptake	

Goal 3 - Streamlining through digitizing – Percent Onboarding of Provincial Case and Contact Management and Vaccine Systems	
Goal 4 - A healthy workplace and workforce - Percentage of employee satisfaction above or at City of Ottawa average	
Goal 5 - Continuously improve our core work to maximize impact – OPH service delivery performance scores	

Document 1 provides an overview of progress made, as well as some key highlights and challenges for each of the five goals and for the three transformational initiatives approved as part of the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan.

Next steps

Staff will continue to provide regular updates to the Board of Health on progress made in implementing the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. The next report will be submitted to the Board of Health in November 2021 and will include the proposed 2022 strategic action plan.

COVID-19 update

Although key strategic aspects of the COVID-19 response have been directly incorporated into the strategy, due to extensive response implemented by OPH to protect Ottawa's population, progress towards some of OPH's strategic goals and initiatives continues to be impacted. It is important to note that while the pandemic response and vaccination campaign are ongoing, OPH is continuing its work on non-pandemic related services, including responding to the overdose crisis and mental health concerns, high-risk food premises complaints, inspection of small drinking water systems with history of non-compliance, recreational water safety, rabies prevention, Lyme disease and West Nile Virus surveillance, investigations of reported environmental health hazards, and case management of reportable diseases of public health significance. In addition, OPH is releasing health promotion communications, focused on chronic disease prevention.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

CONSULTATION

This report is administrative in nature and therefore no public consultation is required.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to receive this report for information.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

Accessibility was considered in the writing of this report.

ALIGNMENT WITH OTTAWA PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This report provides an update on the Strategic Plan for quarter two of 2021.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1: Protecting our Community's Health – Ottawa Public Health's 2019-2022 Strategy– 2020 Quarter 2 Progress Update

DISPOSITION

This report is presented to the Board of Health for information.

Staff will continue to provide regular updates to the Board on the implementation of the 2019-2022 Strategic Plan. The next report will be submitted to the Board in November 2021 and will include the annual strategy refresh for 2022.