

Public Health Sudbury & Districts Strategic Priorities: Narrative Report

Accountability Monitoring Plan
October 2018



Public Health
Santé publique
SUDBURY & DISTRICTS

Introduction

The Public Health Sudbury & Districts 2018-2022 Strategic Plan includes four Strategic Priorities that represent key areas of focus. The Strategic Priorities build on past successes and direct future actions to create optimal conditions for health for all. Strategic Priorities: Narrative Reports highlight stories from Public Health Sudbury & Districts programs and services to paint a picture of our priorities in action. These Narrative Reports are provided to the Board of Health two times per year – in the spring and fall – as a component of the 2018-2022 Accountability Monitoring Plan.

It is important to note that narratives do not necessarily reflect a specific reporting timeline. Rather, they represent an ongoing monitoring component of our 2018–2022 Strategic Plan.

Strategic Priorities



Equitable Opportunities

We strive for health equity by championing equal opportunities for health.



Meaningful Relationships

We establish meaningful relationships that lead to successful partnerships, collaborations, and engagement.



Practice Excellence

We strive for ongoing excellence in public health practice including, program and service development and delivery.



Organizational Commitment

We advance organization-wide commitment and ensure that we are well positioned to support the work of public health.

Housing Investigations Involving Marginalized Populations

The Environmental Health Division is committed to improving housing for marginalized individuals. Public health inspectors are aware that some individuals who are marginalized may be coping with hoarding, unsanitary, or self-neglecting behaviours. Other factors such as poor health, physical limitations, social exclusion, unemployment, food insecurity, poor physical housing, and poverty intersect with these behaviours. Starting in 2016, a research team engaged public health inspectors, marginalized individuals (clients), service providers, and community members to learn about challenges, facilitators, and ideas for improving investigations, with the ultimate goal of improving housing conditions.

Recommendations for improvements included: strengthening community partnerships and action, promoting social inclusion, linking clients to services, working on supportive client policies, strengthening evidence informed practices, and clarifying roles and responsibilities.

The Environmental Health Division is actioning these recommendations and is working with an established group of community partners to strengthen partnerships, clarify roles and responsibilities, and to better link clients to services. Championing these actions will continue to support our agency's overall efforts to improve opportunities for health for all and support community members to reach their full health potential.



Equitable Opportunities

We strive for health equity by championing equal opportunities for health.



Building Healthy School Communities through Strong Relationships

The Public Health Sudbury & Districts School Health Promotion Team has a longstanding collaboration with the Parent Involvement Committee of the *Conseil scolaire public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario* to plan and implement an annual family event, *EXPLO! Une foire pour faire étinceler les familles (Making Families Shine)*. The event is part of an initiative that fosters resiliency and positive family relationships, and would not be possible without the valuable relationship with this school community.

Since 2015, over 200 participants have engaged in *EXPLO!* workshops led by community members, parents, teachers, board staff, and students. They have learned from informative keynote speakers and obtained resources from diverse community partners. Previous *EXPLO!* themes covered exploring passions, making a difference in the community, self-care, and exploring math with a growth mindset. Our agency presented various workshops that aligned with these themes, including *Create Smoothies!*, *Growth Mindset*, *Perseverance Stories*, and *Math on the Menu*.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts continues to build and nurture the meaningful relationship with the school community and has already started to collaborate and plan for next year's *EXPLO!*.



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A Team Effort to Practice Excellence – Responding to Infection Prevention and Control Lapses in the Community

Public Health Sudbury & Districts responds to Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) complaints in the community as required by the *Ontario Public Health Standards* and related protocol. The protocol lists several facility types, including facilities in which regulated health professionals function such as dental offices, midwifery practices, endoscopy clinics, plastic surgery clinics, and others.

Given the variety of IPAC lapses that can occur, the Clinical Services and Environmental Health divisions partnered to develop a team with specialized knowledge and training to respond to complaints. The team's goal is to ensure that complaint assessments are accurate, thorough, and comprehensive. Through this approach we minimize risk to the public and liability to the organization.

The interdisciplinary team consists of division directors, managers, and front-line public health nurses and public health inspectors. A priority for the team is to strive for practice excellence by ensuring that these staff members have the knowledge and skills to effectively respond to IPAC complaints.



Practice Excellence

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Check Before You Go! A Commitment to Transparency

Public Health Sudbury & Districts has shared food premises inspection results with the public via our website since 2009. Since this time, our agency has its commitment to transparency by actively working toward developing, expanding, and improving our proactive disclosure website, *Check Before You Go!* This website provides timely information that supports the public and our community partners in making evidence-informed choices about where they choose to purchase and access services.

The public now has easy access to inspection and enforcement-related information about food premises, personal service settings, recreational water facilities (such as public pools, spas, splash pads, and bathing beaches), small drinking water systems, as well as tobacco and electronic cigarette vendors. Through this ongoing commitment, the agency is actively working toward growing the *Check Before You Go!* website to include inspection results for licensed child care settings, recreational camps, and tanning beds.

For more information, visit: <https://checkbeforeyougo.phsd.ca/>



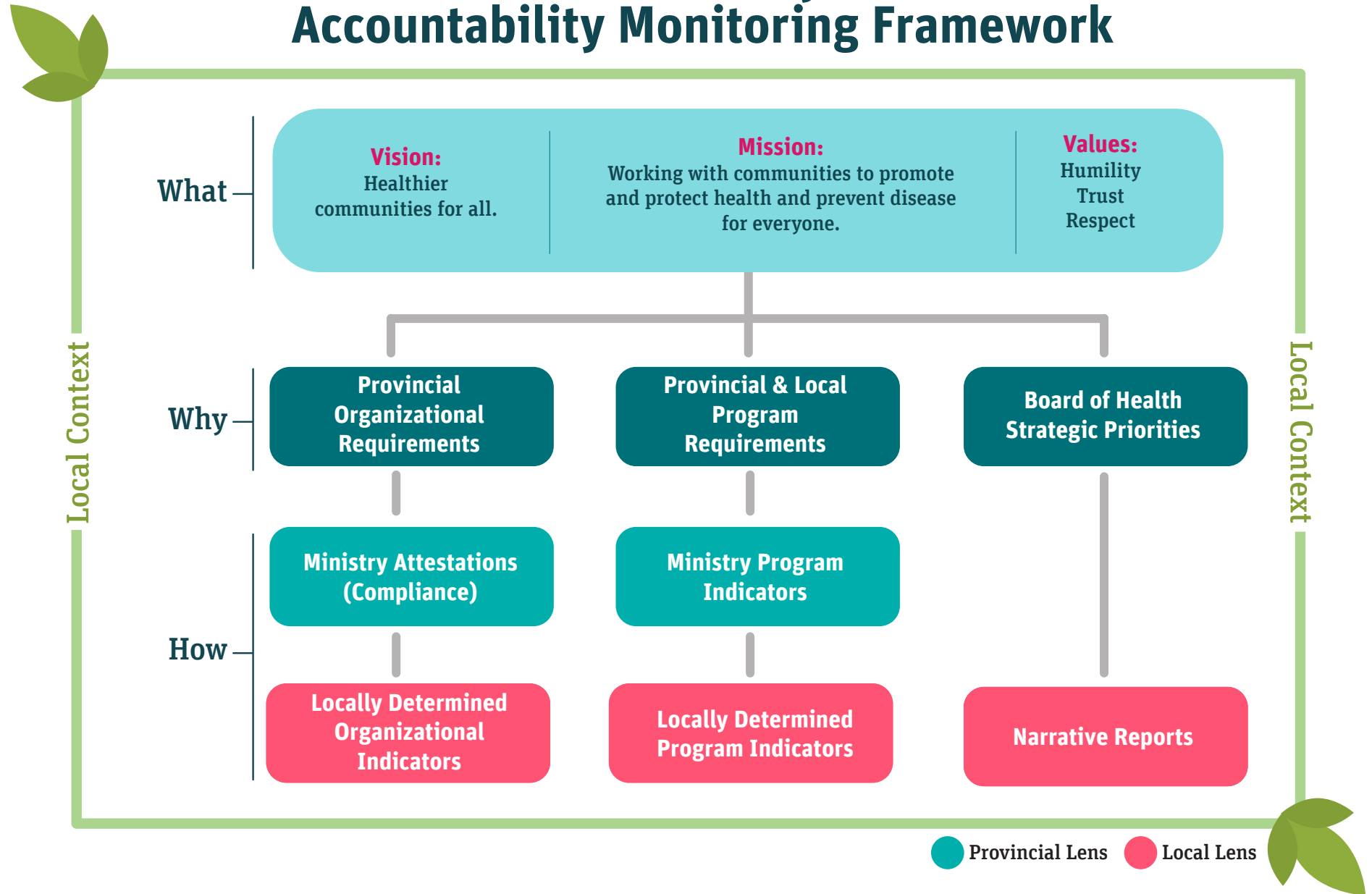
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Public Health Sudbury & Districts Accountability Monitoring Framework





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