Addendum: Board of Health Meeting

Meeting # 05-19

Thursday, September 19, 2019
1:30 p.m.

Boardroom, Public Health Sudbury & Districts
Statement

Statement by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott

September 18, 2019

Today, Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, released the following statement:

"In light of the growing evidence, I have become increasingly concerned about the prevalence and possible health consequences of vaping, particularly as they affect our youth. At the same time, it has become abundantly clear that we do not have access to sufficient data and information to understand the potential scope of this issue.

For this reason, and as a first step toward identifying solutions that meaningfully respond to this emerging issue, I am issuing a Minister’s Order under section 77.7.1 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, which will require public hospitals in Ontario to provide the Chief Medical Officer of Health with statistical, non-identifying information related to incidences of vaping-related severe pulmonary disease.

This information, not previously available to the Ministry of Health, will be critical as we continue to engage with leading experts to identify evidence-based solutions that protect our youth from the potential dangers of vaping."

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Ministry of Health
http://ontario.ca/health
Dear Ms. Blair,

Re: Welcome from alPHa

On behalf of member Medical Officers of Health, Boards of Health and Affiliate organizations of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), I am writing today to welcome you into your new role as Executive Lead for Public Health Modernization.

alPHa is a non-profit organization that provides leadership to the boards of health and public health units in Ontario. Membership in alPHa includes all 35 public health units in Ontario and we work closely with board of health members, medical and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers in each of the public health disciplines – nursing, inspections, nutrition, dentistry, health promotion, epidemiology and business administration. The Association also collaborates with governments and other health organizations, advocating for a strong, effective and efficient public health system in the province. Through policy analysis, discussion, collaboration, and advocacy, alPHa’s members and staff act to promote public health policies that form a strong foundation for the improvement of health promotion and protection, disease prevention and surveillance services in all of Ontario’s communities.

We invite you to visit the dedicated resource page on our web site that houses a wealth of material related to the Public Health Modernization initiative, including responses and other communications from our Association, our members and other partners (https://www.alphaweb.org/page/PHR_Responses). As you will see, alPHa is an invaluable partner and our members look forward to lending their unique expertise to ensuring that Ontario’s public health system continues to ensure the best possible health outcomes in every community across Ontario.

We look forward to working with you and would like to request an opportunity to meet with you and your staff. To schedule a meeting, please have your staff contact Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa, at loretta@alphaweb.org or 647-325-9594.

Sincerely,

Carmen McGregor
President

Copy: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ontario
Dr. Peter Donnelly, President & CEO, Public Health Ontario
Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Information Break

September 13, 2019

This update is a tool to keep alPHA's members apprised of the latest news in public health including provincial announcements, legislation, alPHA activities, correspondence and events.

Update on Public Health Modernization

At the recent annual conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) in Ottawa, Minister of Health Christine Elliott made several important announcements regarding public health modernization. These included the following:

- More time will be given to accommodate changes to cost-sharing arrangement and changes to 2019 funding models will be paused;
- Starting on January 1, 2020, all municipalities will transition to a 70-30 provincial/municipal cost-sharing funding model. In the first year, no health unit will experience an increase of more than 10 percent of current public health costs as a result of this cost-sharing change;
- A renewed consultation with public health partners and municipalities will be launched on the province's proposed larger regional public health structure approach. This will be in addition to the work being done by already-established technical tables; and
- The consultation will include the release of a discussion paper, which will outline the Ministry's proposals for boundaries for the new regional public health entities, among other aspects.
Download the Minister of Health's remarks at AMO here
Watch a video of the Minister of Health's AMO speech here

Following these announcements, aPHa clarified with the government that effective January 1, 2020, the 30 percent municipal cost-shared portion of public health funding will include all of the current 100 percent provincially (Ministry of Health) funded programs except the following: seniors’ dental, MOH/AMOH compensation, and unorganized territories' grants. aPHa awaits further details on the promised one-time funding for 2020 to offset extra costs to municipalities and will share them with the membership when they become available.
Read aPHa's September 11 update to the membership here

The ministry recently appointed Alison Blair as Executive Lead for Public Health Modernization. She will be working in close partnership with CMOH Dr. David Williams and his team, supporting consultations with the sector to plan and implement the modernization of public health and emergency health services. Ms. Blair is also serving as Assistant Deputy Minister, Emergency Health Services.

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**Minister of Health to Speak at aPHa Fall 2019 Symposium**

We are pleased to announce that Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott has confirmed her participation and will be giving opening remarks at aPHa’s Fall 2019 Symposium on November 6 at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health (DLSPH), University of Toronto. Her talk will be followed by a full day of plenary focusing on public health restructuring, including an update by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, that will end with an early evening reception and guest lecture by Dr. Peter Donnelly that is sponsored by the DLSPH.

On the next day (November 7), Section meetings for board of health members and COMOH members will take place in the morning at the Chestnut Conference Centre. Please note the events on November 6 and 7 are being held at two different locations, which are within a 10-minute walking distance of each other. For more information regarding the Symposium and Section meetings and to register, please click the links below.
View Nov. 6 Symposium program here
View the Nov. 7 BOH Section meeting agenda here
Register for Fall 2019 Symposium & Section Meetings
Go to the Symposium event page
Government News Roundup

**Ontario provides $155M to expand home and community care** - 2019/09/11

**Federal government invests $7.7M+ in research to improve Canadians' health** - 2019/08/26

**Ontario releases revised elementary Health & Physical Education curriculum** - 2019/08/21

**Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing speaks at 2019 AMO Annual Conference** - 2019/08/20

**Premier delivers keynote address at 2019 AMO Annual Conference** - 2019/08/19

**Free influenza awareness resources from Health Canada** - 2019/08/16

**Government of Canada lowers drug prices** - 2019/08/09

**Federal government launches action plan on sexually transmitted- and blood-borne infections** - 2019/07/17

**Ontario expands newborn screening program** - 2019/07/03

**Canada's Chief Public Health Officer updates her vision and areas of focus on second anniversary** - 2019/06/26

**Premier's Council on Improving Healthcare and Ending Hallway Medicine releases second report** - 2019/06/25

**Health Canada proposes new regulations to strengthen labelling and packaging requirements for vaping products** - 2019/06/21

**Federal Poverty Reduction Act becomes law** - 2019/06/21

**Canada supports development of 24-hour movement guidelines for adults** - 2019/06/18

**Health Canada finalizes regulations for cannabis production and sale** - 2019/06/14

**Special Advisory Committee statement on new data on opioid crisis** - 2019/06/13
National Advisory Council recommends universal, single-payer public pharmacare - 2019/06/12

Canada's Chief Public Health Officer releases second public health spotlight report on preserving antibiotics now and into the future - 2019/06/11

Ontario Special Advisor for the Beverage Alcohol Review releases report - 2019/05/24

Upcoming Events - Mark your calendars!

Fall 2019 Symposium - November 6, 2019; Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, 155 College Street, Toronto. View program details here. Register here.

Section Meetings for BOH and COMOH Members - November 7, 2019; Chestnut Conference Centre, 89 Chestnut St., Toronto. Register here.

Winter 2019 Symposium/Section Meetings - TBD


June 2020 Annual General Meeting & Conference - June 10-12, 2020; Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, 155 College Street, Toronto.

alPHa is the provincial association for Ontario’s public health units. You are receiving this update because you are a member of a board of health or an employee of a health unit.

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September 12, 2019

MEMORANDUM TO: Health Sector Partners

FROM: Helen Angus
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health

RE: Ministry of Health – Organizational Realignment

As the Ministry of Health continues to modernize Ontario’s publicly-funded health care system in order to end hallway health care, build a connected mental health and addictions system, improve patient experience and strengthen local services, we are entering a significant and exciting period of implementation across several initiatives.

To ensure that the Ministry of Health is structured to best deliver on our mandate and support our health sector partners, we are making several structural changes to our organization.

As of September 16, 2019, the following divisions will be established and report to Mel Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Services:

**Ontario Health Teams Division**

Ontario Health Teams (OHTs) are a signature piece of this government’s mandate to integrate a broad continuum of care around patients. We are excited to build the capacity to support and scale OHTs across the province through the new **Ontario Health Teams Division (OHTD)**. The division will be led by Executive Lead Phil Graham who will be responsible for providing leadership and oversight to facilitate the development and creation of OHTs. Phil will also continue to provide oversight over home and community care as we move forward with modernization.

**Mental Health and Addictions Division**

Improving the treatment of mental health and addictions is one of the government’s key priorities. The **Mental Health and Addictions Division (MHAD)** will be established under the leadership of Karen Glass, Assistant Deputy Minister. This division will lead the development and implementation of Ontario’s Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.
**Capacity Planning and Analytics Division**

To integrate capacity planning, analytic functions and the health human resource strategy, the ministry will create a **Capacity Planning and Analytics Division (CPAD)**, led by Assistant Deputy Minister Michael Hillmer. As a result, the existing Capacity Planning and Capital Division and the Information Management, Data and Analytics Division will be merged into one division.

**Emergency Health Services Division**

The important work of the Emergency Health Program Management and Delivery Branch and the Emergency Health Regulatory and Accountability Branch will be realigned to create a new **Emergency Health Services Division (EHSD)**, led by Assistant Deputy Minister Alison Blair.

**Public Health Modernization**

Alison will also take on the Executive Lead role for Public Health modernization. Reporting jointly to me and the Associate Deputy Minister - and working in close partnership with Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, and his team - Alison will support consultations with the sector to plan and implement the modernization of public health and emergency health services.

The following divisions will also be renamed or realigned to support the ministry’s mandate:

The Strategic Implementation Division will be renamed the **Health Transformation Division (HTD)**. This division, led by Assistant Deputy Minister Sean Court, will continue to lead the implementation of the ministry’s key transformation initiatives, including continued support for the establishment of the new Ontario Health agency and the cross-government supply chain initiative, with a focus on ensuring minimum disruption to patients and the health care sector.

The Digital Health Secretariat, currently led by Assistant Deputy Minister Greg Hein, will be renamed the **Digital Health Division (DHD)** and realigned, reporting to Mel Fraser, Associate Deputy Minister, Health Services. The division will support a digital approach to all of our health service modernization, which will help ensure alignment between the ministry’s and our partners’ priorities.

Mike Heenan, who recently joined the ministry as Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Emergency Services, will add health capital to his new division, now named the **Hospitals and Capital Division (HCD)**. Mike’s experience in the hospital sector positions him well to take on this role. With this division we will now have a full picture of the hospital sector in one place, including the operational impact of capital investments to support the government’s strategy to end hallway healthcare.

Patrick Dicerni’s Strategic Policy and Planning Division will be renamed the **Strategic Policy, Planning and French Language Services Division (SPPFLSD)** and will provide centralized and coordinated support for the sector’s French language services. In addition, Patrick will also provide leadership to the Drugs and Devices Division on a temporary basis pending a formal recruitment.

Given these new supports and realignments, the French Language Services Office will move to the Health Equity Branch, SPPFLSD, where it will continue to provide strategic advice on the
French Language Services Act. The Health Equity Branch will be renamed the Indigenous, French Language and Priority Populations Branch. The Community, Mental Health Addictions and French Language Services Division (CMHAFLSD) will be dissolved. The division’s remaining branch, Primary Health Care, will be moved to the Ontario Health Insurance Plan Division (OHIPD). This realignment will provide the expertise to achieve better health outcomes and maximize the value of the provincial investment in the health care system.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your partnership and collaboration. Today’s announcement will ensure we are ready to work with you on the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Helen Angus