



These highlights provide an overview of Public Health Sudbury & Districts' work in 2023 to advance community health, promote equity, and prevent disease. They offer insights into many of our initiatives that foster healthier lifestyles and address public health challenges. Through our programs, services, and collaborative efforts, we remain committed to creating healthier communities for all.

## Health Promotion and Vaccine Preventable Diseases

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### Chronic disease prevention and well-being

**Nine (9)** healthy public policies that focus on helping prevent chronic disease were initiated and advanced with Public Health's support and engagement, which also included Board of Health motions and letters of support.

### Vaccine preventable diseases

Public health nurses administered **21 785** routine immunizations. **9 815** doses were administered to Grade 7 students through **61** schools or at Public Health's offices—offering safe and effective protection against meningitis, hepatitis B, and human papillomavirus (HPV).

### Toxic drugs

Public Health and the City of Greater Sudbury hosted the *Greater Sudbury Summit on Toxic Drugs*, bringing together leaders from various community sectors. **180** participants, **17** panelists, and **15** speakers reviewed the magnitude of—and response to—the crisis.

## Health Protection

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### Sexual health, sexually transmitted infections, and blood-borne infections

Public Health staff offered **4 025** telephone or electronic consultations. **3 553** clients received services in our offices to support prevention, harm reduction, testing, and screening.

### Health hazards

Public health inspectors and environmental support officers investigated **460** issues from mould to insect and rodent infestations.

### Gastrointestinal and respiratory outbreaks

Public Health declared **15** gastrointestinal and **135** respiratory outbreaks in institutions such as long-term care homes, hospitals, and congregate living settings. Public Health worked proactively and reactively with institutions to assess and put measures in place to prevent and control infections among people who are most at risk.

## Knowledge and Strategic Services

### Population health assessment and surveillance

Public Health continued to monitor priority health issues, for example, opioid overdose-related EMS calls and deaths, *Seasonal Acute Care Enhanced Surveillance (ACES)* reports, COVID-19 cases, and school absenteeism, as well as sharing this data with interested community partners. In addition, staff prepared socio-demographic and population health status reports to share insights related to youth, older adults, francophones, and the toxic drug crisis.

### Positive Space

Public Health launched the agency's *Positive Space* initiative to demonstrate its commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion for all who deal with Public Health; support toward members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community was a particular priority.

### Student placements

Public Health hosted **33** students from **7** post-secondary institutions, representing **8** disciplines, resulting in **7 364** hours of student experience.

## Indigenous Engagement

Public Health continued to define and strengthen relationships with First Nation communities and Indigenous partners to collaboratively support public health programs and services. Staff participated in Indigenous worldview experiential training, in alignment with the agency's *Indigenous Engagement Strategy* to improve capacity for a culturally competent workforce. Staff had opportunities to learn about smudging, how to offer semaa (tobacco) to Elders, and how to work respectfully with Elders.

### Our Commitment

Public Health envisions vibrant communities where well-being thrives and everyone can attain their full potential. Working alongside partners to champion health, our values underpin every aspect of our work.

### Vision

Healthier communities for all.

### Mission

Working with local communities to promote and protect health and to prevent disease for everyone.

### Values

Humility      Trust      Respect

We are  
Public  
Health