

**Board of Health
Minutes**

**January 19, 2022
9:15 am - 12:00 pm
Teleconference**

Board Members Present: S. Cairns, R. Cipolla, L. Dollin, A. Dubeau, G. Harvey, P. Koetsier, R. Milne, F. Pinto, S. Warnock, P. Willmott, L. Oehm, S. Kinsella, A. Kungl

Staff Present: C. Gardner, K. Ellis-Scharfenberg

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:15am.

1.1 Chair and Vice Chair Vote

C. Gardner assumed the role of Chair and asked for nominations for the Chair of the Board of Health for 2022.

A. Dubeau was nominated by S. Warnock and seconded by A. Kungl. She accepted the nomination. No further nominations were received.

A. Dubeau was acclaimed as Chair for 2022 for the Board of Health. A. Dubeau assumed the Chair and called for nominations for the Vice Chair for 2022.

R. Cipolla was nominated by L. Dollin and seconded by R. Milne. He accepted the nomination. No further nominations were received. R. Cipolla was acclaimed as Vice Chair for 2022.

1.2 Welcome to Dr. Mary Choi, Public Health and Preventative Medicine Resident

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2.0

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY A. Kungl

THAT the Board of Health approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

4.1 Approval of Minutes from December 15, 2021

Motion 4.1

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY A. Kungl

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the December 15, 2021 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

5. In Camera

5.1 Minutes from Previous Meeting

5.2 HR Issue

Motion 5.0

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY P. Koetsier

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the December 15, 2021 in camera minutes and discuss one HR issue.

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.2

MOVED BY R. Milne

SECONDED BY F. Pinto

THAT the Board of Health come out of in camera and not report.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

6.1 Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 and Immunization Update. Presentation. Dr. Charles Gardner and Mary Ann Holmes presenting.

C. Gardner provided an update of the COVID-19 pandemic and the 5th wave which has resulted in an enormous rise in cases internationally. At this time there has been over 9 billion doses of the COVID-19 vaccine administered around the world.

Board members received an update on the Omicron variant locally noting that 98% of all COVID-19 cases circulating in Simcoe Muskoka are Omicron, which is the most transmissible variant to date. There has been a 50% increase in cases in the past month with increased hospitalizations.

The current restrictions in Ontario were reviewed with an announcement expected shortly that will begin to ease the restrictions in the modified Step 2 of the provincial Roadmap to Reopen plan.

M. Choi provided an update on the current outbreaks within Simcoe Muskoka in vulnerable settings which is currently at 98 outbreaks (approximately a 200% increase overall since mid-December). The new PCR testing strategy which came into effect on December 31, 2021 has adjusted the way that public health conducts case and contact management and SMDHU is maintaining close relationships with high-risk setting facilities and will continue to provide support to those facilities in a confirmed or suspected outbreak.

MA Holmes provided an update on immunization and the ongoing activities. Community clinics are currently experiencing a slight decrease in attendance, therefore strategies are being implemented such as an increase in messaging to the public to encourage walk-ins, which are now being accepted at all clinic locations. Board members requested that clear and concise messaging regarding walk-in clinics be available to the public and easily accessible.

Board members reviewed the progress of booster doses and the renewed focus on the 5–11-year-old vaccinations. School clinics are being planned and information packages are being prepared to be provided to students.

Motion 6.1

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY L. Dollin

THAT the Board of Health receive this update as information.

CARRIED

- 6.2 2022 Draft Cost-Shared Budget and Schedules for COVID-19 and COVID-19 Recovery. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the draft 2022 Cost-Shared Public Health Programs budget which is based on direction received at the November 17, 2021 Board of Health meeting based on a 4.9% levy increase. This budget was also developed based on a provincial grant increase matching the municipal levy of 4.9% in keeping with advocacy from the Board to the Minister of Health.

Board members discussed the line of credit, and it was confirmed that this has not been accessed. K. Ellis-Scharfenberg noted that negotiations are occurring with the bank to review financial options as required.

Motion 6.2

MOVED BY A. Kungl

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health approve the 2022 base budget for Cost-Shared Mandatory at \$38,023,984 reflecting a 2022 municipal levy of \$9,607,406 which represents an increase of 4.9% on the 2021 municipal levy;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health approve the following for 2022:

- COVID-19 Extraordinary/CCI Budget
- COVID-19 Immunization Program Budget
- COVID-19 Recovery Budget
- OSDCP Budget;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health approve the draw of up to \$500,000 of the Public Health Contingency Reserve to enable management to initiate COVID-19 Recovery activities;

AND FURTHERMORE THAT the Board of Health authorize the submission of the 2022 Annual Service Plan and Budget Submission reflecting the 2022 budget for Cost-Shared Mandatory Programs and the COVID-19 Extraordinary and COVID-19 Immunization templates.

CARRIED

6.3 Information Privacy and Access Annual Report for 2020 and 2021. Briefing Note. Dr. Charles Gardner and Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presented the Information and Privacy and Access Report for 2020 and 2021 which is required annually and demonstrates SMDHU's compliance with privacy legislation and its ongoing commitment to information privacy, security and access through continuous quality improvement. Due to the current workload managing the COVID-19 pandemic a single report was developed over a two-year period.

Board members reviewed the report including potential breaches and actions taken by SMDHU staff.

Motion 6.3

MOVED BY P. Willmott

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

THAT the Board of Health receive the Information Privacy and Access Report for 2021 and 2022 (Appendix A) for information.

CARRIED

7. Announcements

A. Kungl discussed the Bill C-3 Act which is an Act to amend the Criminal Code and the Canada Labour Code to protect health care workers and people seeking access to health services. Board members requested this item to be discussed in greater detail at a future Board meeting.

8. Items of Education

8.1 alPHa Winter Symposium - Public Health Resilience - February 25, 2022.

9. Items of Information

9.1 alPHa Information Break – December 20, 2021.

9.2 Holiday card from the Honourable Christine Elliott.

9.3 Thank you card to the Board of Health re Bereavement gift.

10. Date of Next Meetings

- February 16, 2022
- March 16, 2022

11. Adjournment

Motion 11.0

MOVED BY G. Harvey

SECONDED BY S. Cairns

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned 11:44am.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau

Chair, Board of Health

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Charles Gardner

Medical Officer of Health