

**Board of Health
Minutes**

**April 15, 2020
9:15 am - 10:30 am
Teleconference**

Board Members Present: S. Cairns, R. Cipolla, L. Dollin, A. Dubeau, G. Harvey, P. Koetsier, R. Milne, F. Pinto, P. Preager, 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.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Motion 2.0

MOVED BY S. Cairns

SECONDED BY G. Harvey

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 March 18, 2020.

Motion 4.1

MOVED BY L. Dollin

SECONDED BY G. Harvey

THAT the Board of Health approve the minutes from the March 18, 2020 Board of Health meeting.

CARRIED

5. In Camera

5.1 Approval of Minutes

Motion 5.0

MOVED BY S. Kinsella

SECONDED BY P. Koetsier

THAT the Board of Health go in camera to approve the March 18, 2020 in camera minutes.

CARRIED

Motion 5.0.1

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 COVID-19 Update. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Response and Activities. Verbal Report. C. Gardner and C. Nisbet presenting.

COVID-19 Partner Updates

C. Gardner provided an update of SMDHU's activities to date on the COVID-19 pandemic response noting that worldwide we are nearing 2,000,000 cases and growing. Board members reviewed the situational update and timeline both nationally and locally.

The control and management measures were addressed including vaccines and medications which are currently being trialed clinically, physical distancing, testing, care for cases, and protection for the vulnerable population.

The role of SMDHU was reviewed including case and contact management, public communication, outbreak management, partner engagement and enforcement. The outstanding challenges include workplace IPAC protection for staff, program suspension, costs and the development of a mitigation strategy for harms caused by physical distancing measures.

The projections within Simcoe Muskoka were reviewed and the creation of a new Pandemic Business Continuity Plan was identified along with an operational strategy as this pandemic could continue for up to 2 years.

Board members requested clarification on masks. C. Gardner provided an overview of the different kinds of masks that their application.

Board members discussed essential services and enforcement as well as the issue of people using their seasonal residences. C Gardner noted that this is a plea by the Province and not an order at this time therefore no enforcement is possible.

Motion 6.1

MOVED BY P. Preager

SECONDED BY S. Warnock

THAT the Board of Health receive this item as information

CARRIED

- 6.2 COVID-19 Finance Update. Verbal Report. C. Gardner and K. Ellis-Scharfenberg presenting.

K. Ellis-Scharfenberg provided an update of the expenses incurred thus far related to COVID-19 which has demanded an intensive effort from all departments resulting in large financial impacts to salary expenses. There have also been many unbudgeted and unplanned purchases for involving technology, telecommunications, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE – masks, face visors, gowns and gloves to protect from COVID-19 infection) and other supplies directly impacting the SMDHU financial situation.

Board members reviewed the estimated costs of hours worked by staff on COVID-19 activities. Board members requested additional information on staff overtime hours of work and the means to manage and sustain this model. K. Ellis-Scharfenberg provided an update on the call volume and case management work that is occurring.

It was noted that the province has provided announcements to assist with some of these unprecedented costs, however there have been no details communicated at this time.

Board members discussed Public Health Modernization and C. Gardner noted that there has been no further communication on this from the Province since the beginning of the pandemic.

Motion 6.2

MOVED BY P. Willmott

SECONDED BY S. Cairns

THAT the Board of Health receive this item as information.

CARRIED

7. Announcements

R. Cipolla noted that an Economic Task Force has been implemented in the City of Orillia.

8. Items of Education

aPHa 2020 Annual General Meeting and Conference. June 7 – 9, 2020.
Chestnut Conference Centre, Toronto

9. Items of Information

- 9.1 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re Peter Preager Board of Health Reappointment
- 9.2 Letter from Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit to Alexander Bishop, Director of Legalization of Cannabis Branch, Policy Division of the Ministry of the Attorney General re Letter of Support for 20-MAG001 Cannabis Consumption Establishments/Special Occasion Permits
- 9.3 News Release from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re Second Confirmed Case of Hepatitis A in a Food Handler in Huntsville
- 9.4 News Release from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re Second COVID-19 Death in Region
- 9.5 News Release from Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re New Positive Case of COVID-19
- 9.6 Letter from Christopher Raynor, Regional Clerk for York Region to Anita Dubeau, Board Chair for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit re

Response to Ontario Ministry of Health's Discussion Paper on Public Health Modernization

- 9.7 Letter from Carmen McGregor, President for aPHa, to aPHa Members re aPHa's Role and Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 9.8 Letter from Carmen McGregor, President for aPHa, to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario re COVID-19 Action Plan and Public Health
- 9.9 News Release from the Office of the Premier for the Government of Ontario re Ontario Provides \$3.3 Billion More to Increase Health Care Capacity
- 9.10 Report from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing re Providing Flexibility for Municipalities to Hold Local Meetings During Emergencies
- 9.11 Letter from France Gélinas, Official Opposition Health Critic and Member of Provincial Parliament for Nickel Belt to Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care re COVID-19 Related List of Essential Workplaces and Construction Industry

10. Date and Time of Next Meetings

- May 20, 2020 – Barrie Office
- June 17, 2020 – Barrie Office

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.

Motion 12.0

MOVED BY R. Cipolla

SECONDED BY S. Kinsella

THAT the Board of Health meeting be adjourned at 10:46.

CARRIED

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Anita Dubeau
Chair, Board of Health

ORIGINAL Signed By:

Dr. Charles Gardner
Medical Officer of Health