



## Board of Health

### Regular Board Meeting via Go-to-Meeting

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

The regular meeting of Renfrew County and District Health Unit's Board of Health was held by *Go-to-Meeting*. Members were present by audio and/or video.

#### Members:

Janice Visneskie Moore	Chair
M. Ann Aikens	Vice-Chair
J. Michael du Manoir	Member
Jane Dumas	Member
Peter Emon	Member
Wilmer Matthews	Member
Christine Reavie	Member
Cathy Regier	Member
Carolyn Watt	Member

#### Staff:

Heather Daly	Acting Chief Executive Officer/Director, Corporate Services
Marilyn Halko	Executive Assistant (Secretary)

#### 01. Call to Order

J. Visneskie Moore called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### 02. Agenda Approval

The agenda was approved as presented.

#### Resolution: # 1 BoH 2020-Sep-29

A motion by J. Dumas; seconded by W. Matthews; be it resolved that the Board approve the agenda, as presented.

Carried

#### 03. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

#### 04. Delegations

There were no delegations.

#### 05. Minutes of Previous Meetings (Approval)

a. Special Board Meeting Minutes 2020-Jul-28

The meeting minutes for the Special Board meeting held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, via teleconference, were approved, as presented.

##### **Resolution: # 2 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Reavie; seconded by M. A. Aikens; be it resolved that the Board approve the meeting minutes from the Special Board meeting held on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, as presented.

Carried

#### 06. Business Arising

All items from the 2020-Jul-28 Special Board Meeting Action List were completed.

#### 07. Correspondence

The Board received the following correspondence:

Subject:		From:	Action:
a.	The Decriminalization of Personal Possession of Illicit Drugs	• Chatham-Kent Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sent by email on 2020-Aug-06</li><li>• Received as information.</li></ul>
b.	Letter to Minister Elliott Funding Health Units during COVID-19	• Simcoe Muskoka District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sent by email on 2020-Aug-19</li><li>• Received as information.</li></ul>
c.	alPHa Information Break	• alPHa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sent by email on 2020-Aug-21</li><li>• Received as information.</li></ul>
d.	Guaranteed Basic Income in Throne Speech	• Peterborough Public Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sent by email on 2020-Sep-17</li><li>• Received as information and placed in the Action List Parking Lot for future follow-up.</li></ul>

e.	COVID-19 and Long-Term Care Reform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sent by email on 2020-Sep-22</li> <li>• Referred to Dr. Cushman for advice regarding recommendations, additions and endorsement by the Board.</li> </ul>
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## 08. Board Committee Reports

### a. Executive

P. Emon, Executive Committee Chair, presented the following report to the Board:

- [Executive Committee Board Report from August 20, 2020 meeting](#)

Discussion ensued surrounding future motions going forward regarding Renfrew County Virtual Triage Assessment Centre (RC VTAC). Board will take its lead from the Centre.

It was noted that South Algonquin, a designated Northern community, is included in the RC VTAC's service delivery area and may add leverage to future proposals.

The RC VTAC model is being presented to Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) as a solution model for health care issues across the Province.

Item # 3—Chair Visneskie Moore sent a letter, on August 26, 2020, to Ottawa Public Health Board Chair Egli, requesting a meeting regarding public health modernization. Since that time Ottawa has become one of the Province's hotspots for COVID-19 cases, so the meeting with RCDHU has been put on hold.

The September 24, 2020 Executive Committee was cancelled.

### **Resolution: # 3 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Reavie; seconded by C. Regier; be it resolved that the Board accept the Executive Committee Board Report.

Carried

b. Resources

J. M. du Manoir, Resources Committee Chair, presented two reports to the Board:

- [Resources Committee Board Report and Briefing Note—2020-Aug-14](#)
- [Resources Committee Board Report and Briefing Note—2020-Sep-18](#)

H. Daly updated the Board on developments since the Resources Committee meeting held on September 18, 2020.

The proposed temporary space for RCDHU, to be used until 141 Lake Street is ready for occupancy, includes the following locations:

Team One— suite 107 secured at the Pembroke Mall for clinics/public

Team Two—suite 106 adjoining, at Pembroke Mall for COVID response team and other program staff.

Team Three—in negotiations for corporate services space.

The COVID-19 Budget projection was submitted to the Province on Friday, September 25, 2020.

It was just announced by the MCCSS, the funding Ministry for the HBHC program, that funds may be redirected to cover COVID-19 expenses for the last quarter of 2020.

The Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP) received capital one-time funding of \$50K for Barry's Bay OSDCP Clinic completion and \$355K capital one-time funding for the Pembroke OSDCP Clinic construction.

At 10:29 a.m., Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health joined the GoToMeeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the hiring of the School Nurses initiative. The funding is for 6 Full Time Equivalent nurses and these nurses will be allocated across the schools in Renfrew County and District.

At 10:34 a.m., Michael Donohue, Member joined the GoToMeeting.

The renovations, for the relocation of the RCDHU Pembroke Office to 141 Lake Street are still on budget and have been reviewed by the Resources Committee. It was acknowledged that H. Daly has gone above

and beyond to keep the project on track, staying close to the estimated costs.

Daly answered questions from Board Members regarding the Q2 budget. This budget summary is appended to the briefing note.

It was noted that during the COVID-19 pandemic, RCDHU head count numbers have fluctuated and increased, putting additional workloads on the Corporate Services Staff in the area of payroll, human resources, finance and IT.

**Resolution: # 4 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Regier; seconded by C. Reavie; be it resolved that the Board accept the Resources Committee Board Report for August 2020 and September 2020.

Carried

**09. Staff Reports**

- a. Report to the Board—Acting Medical Officer of Health  
Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health, Renfrew County and District Health Unit, presented the following written report to the Board:

- [Report to the Board](#)

Dr. Cushman gave an additional verbal report, updating the Board on the current status of positive COVID-19 cases in Renfrew County and District (RCD). There have been 52 positive COVID-19 cases reported in RCD since March 2020, currently, there are nine people self-isolating, 42 resolved cases and one death.

In September 2020, 19 positive COVID-19 cases, were reported in RCD. This number eclipsed the combined 17 cases reported in March and April of 2020.

On September 16, 2020, Fellowes High School, in Pembroke, was the first school in Ontario to be closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak. RCDHU as well and two provincial ministries were involved with the closure. Dr. Cushman praised RCDHU Staff for being on top of the data.

In total, nine positive COVID-19 cases were identified with the outbreak, which included: four staff members, one student and four close contacts.

The outbreak was declared over on Saturday, September 26, 2020.

Dr. Cushman requested that municipal and district Board Members identify venues in their area that could be used for COVID-19 testing and influenza clinics and send their responses to the Secretary.

Lab capacity was brought into question and explained.

Three types of tests can identify the COVID-19 virus:

1. Nasopharyngeal and throat swabs require skilled technicians and machines to determine results. Currently, labs are processing these swab tests at 100% capacity.
2. Antibody testing--can determine if a person has been infected with COVID-19.
3. Spit/saliva tests—waiting for approval by Health Canada. A rapid form of testing that would deal with the overloaded system.

Number one in the list of the three is broadly used in RCD and requires laboratory testing. Results are returned to RCDHU in four to ten days.

**Resolution: # 5 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Watt; seconded by J. Dumas; be it resolved that the Board accept the written and verbal reports to the Board from Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health.

Carried

At 11:38 a.m. Dr. Cushman vacated the GoToMeeting.

**10. By-Laws**

There were no items in by-laws.

**11. New Business**

- a. Contract Renewal for Dr. Robert Cushman as Acting Medical Officer of Health for Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

**Resolution: # 6 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by M. A. Aikens; seconded by C. Reavie; be it resolved that Board will extend the contract of Dr. Robert Cushman, appointing him as Acting Medical Officer of Health for Renfrew County and District Health Unit for up to one year, as necessary, effective October 25, 2020.

Carried

- b. OIC for J. M. du Manoir  
An Executive Council of Ontario, Order in Council, from Lieutenant Governor E. Dowdeswell, reappointed M. J. du Manoir to the Board of Health for Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

The Chair congratulated du Manoir on reappointment to the Board for a period not to exceed one year effective January 1, 2021.

## 12. Notice of Motion

There was no notice of motion.

## 13. Closed Meeting

Before moving into the closed session of the meeting, the Chair asked all Board Members if they were in a secure location and alone. All Members confirmed compliance with both requests.

### **Resolution: # 7 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Regier; seconded by C. Reavie; that the Board move into a closed meeting to discuss: d. labour relations or employee negotiations; and k. a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. 2001, c. 25, s. 239 (2); 2017, c. 10, Sched. 1, s. 26.

Carried

The Chair rose to report that the Board met in a closed meeting to discuss: d. labour relations or employee negotiations; and k. a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality or local board. 2001, c. 25, s. 239 (2); 2017, c. 10, Sched. 1, s. 26.

## 14. Date of Next Meeting

The next Regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 27, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. or at the call of the Chair.

## 15. Adjournment

### **Resolution: # 8 BoH 2020-Sep-29**

A motion by C. Regier; seconded by J. Dumas; be it resolved that the Regular Board meeting be adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Carried

The Regular Board meeting, held by GoToMeeting, adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

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Chair

*The Regular Board meeting minutes were approved at a GoToMeeting held 2020-Oct-27.*