

Renfrew County and District Health Unit

"Optimal health for all in Renfrew County and District"

CEO Report: September 2024 Update

To: Board of Health
Date: September 24, 2024
From: Heather G Daly

I hope everyone took time this summer for a well-deserved break to recharge in preparation for a busy fall. Here's what's been happening since the June board meeting.

Ministry Updates:

The review of the Ontario Public Health Standards continues, but health units are advised to plan their 2025 work based on the current standards in place. Funding is also being reviewed with announcements still expected in early 2025 to take effect in 2026. For 2025 budgets, health units are to include the 1% increase to base funding. Formal approval from the province is still pending for health unit mergers. There are four health unit merger projects underway, involving nine health units and these numbers are lower than the Ministry had anticipated.

The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) announced a 7% increase to the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program funding, the first increase in 12 years. This was welcome news for the program.

The Ministry is making some progress closing past year settlements. This summer they completed their review of the 2020 Annual Reconciliation and issued the settlement agreement [letter](#) confirming their agreement of no money due from either party for that year.

We received the 2024 Accountability Agreement in late June which formalizes the 1% increase to our mandatory base funding and it aligns with the RCDHU board approved budget. The full document is linked [here](#).

Upcoming Conferences & Training:

The alPHa Fall ([Symposium](#)) is taking place November 6th-8th and is open for registration at a cost of \$399+HST. Closing date for registration is October 30.

For our board members, a fall Board Governance training session is scheduled for October 21, from 1 – 5 pm. This will be provided virtually by [alPHa](#) and we hope you are able to participate.

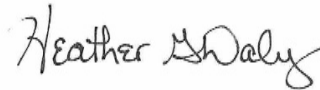
Shared Services:

Meetings with the three obligated municipalities are happening at the time of writing this report. A full update will be presented at the October board meeting.

60th Anniversary in review:

On August 8 we celebrated our 60th Anniversary and we estimate attendance was over 70 people along with some media presence. We were joined by numerous past employees who gathered with us to share their memories. Formal congratulations were received from [MPP John Yakabuski](#) and [Premier Doug Ford](#). Thank you to all the staff and extra volunteers who helped out for the big day. A special thank you to Melissa Ziebarth, who put this event together and made it happen.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Heather Shady". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sept 19, 2024