



Algoma  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
Santé publique Algoma

## Board of Health Meeting

### MINUTES

September 28, 2022 at 5:00 pm

SSM Algoma Community Room, Video/Teleconference

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** Sally Hagman - Chair  
Lee Mason - 1st Vice-Chair  
Deborah Graystone - 2nd Vice-Chair  
Louise Caicco Tett  
Musa Onyuna  
Brent Rankin

#### **APH MEMBERS**

Dr. John Tuinema - Acting Medical Officer of Health & CEO  
Antoniette Tomie - Director of Corporate Services  
Laurie Zeppa - Director of Programs  
Leo Vecchio - Manager of Communications  
Leslie Dunseath - Manager of Accounting Services  
Liliana Bressan - Manager of Effective Public Health Practice  
Dr. Emma Pillsworth - Public Health and Preventive Medicine  
Resident Physician  
Tania Caputo - Board Secretary  
Tanya Storozuk - Executive Assistant

**GUESTS:** Mennonite Community Leadership - Isaak Doerksen - Bishop, Amos Weber - Deacon, Betsy Weber, Saloma  
Melinda Freer - Public Health Nurse, Algoma Public Health (Mennonite/Amish Community Liaison)  
Carol-Ann Agnihotri - Nurse Practitioner, North Shore Health Network  
Mary Ellen Luukkonen - Interim VP of Clinical Services & Chief Nursing Executive, North Shore Health Network &  
Co-Chair for East Algoma Ontario Health Team  
Dr. Nicholas Jeeves, Physician and Chief of Staff, North Shore Health Network

**REGRETS:** Micheline Hatfield, Matthew Scott, Ed Pearce, Kimberly Aslett - Research Policy Advisor

#### **1.0 Meeting Called to Order**

- a. **Land Acknowledgment:** read by S. Hagman.
- b. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest:** there were no conflicts declared.

#### **2.0 Adoption of Agenda**

##### **RESOLUTION 2022-70**

**Moved:** B. Rankin  
**Seconded:** L. Mason

THAT the Board of Health agenda dated September 28, 2022 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### **3.0 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

##### **RESOLUTION 2022-71**

**Moved:** D. Graystone  
**Seconded:** L. Mason

THAT the Board of Health minutes dated June 22, 2022 be approved as presented.

**CARRIED**

#### **4.0 Business Arising from Minutes**

Not applicable.

## 5.0 Reports to the Board

### a. Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer Reports

#### i. MOH Report - September 2022

J. Tuinema provided highlights of his update available in the meeting package covering the current status of COVID-19 in Algoma and immunization plans across the district. He spoke about APH recovery efforts including a return to workplace update with a focus on health and safety. The budget will be presented to the F&A committee in October.

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-72**

**Moved:** L. Caicco Tett  
**Seconded:** M. Onyuna

THAT the report of the Medical Officer of Health and CEO for September 2022 be accepted as presented.

#### **CARRIED**

#### ii. Strategic Plan and Agency Priorities

The agency is in a position to launch the strategic plan. The plan has been reviewed and J. Tuinema discussed how it is aligned to COVID-19 Recovery work. Updating the Community Health Profile (CHP) for 2023 will set us up well for the next strategic plan. Throughout the process of updating the CHP, we will be setting interim priorities based on information and data as it is pulled together. COVID-19 will still be a reality and priority as we continue to work to protect community health, but efforts must focus on minimizing internal disruption and addressing the many other public health challenges being faced by our communities.

#### iii. Comprehensive Public Health Approach for Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction

#### **RESOLUTION 2022-73**

**Moved:** M. Onyuna  
**Seconded:** D. Graystone

Whereas, the opioid poisoning crisis is a complex public health issue that has worsened throughout the course of the COVID-19 pandemic;

Whereas, data from the Office of the Chief Coroner shows that Algoma Public Health had the third highest rate in the province for opioid-related deaths between April 2021-March 2022;

Whereas, northern Ontario experiences higher rates of poverty and poor health, elevated rates of many health-harming behaviours, and inadequate access to high-quality health care and social services, compared to southern Ontario;

Whereas, Algoma's health system is under-resourced to respond to the escalating burden of opioid-related morbidity and mortality, due to persistent challenges with recruitment and retention, training, and inadequate funding across health and social services;

Whereas, 8 out of 10 Canadians with a substance use disorder say they experience barriers to recovery, including stigma;

Whereas, long-term solutions to the opioid poisoning crisis must prioritize a comprehensive, multi-sectoral approach and coordinated action to address the social determinants of health, facilitate prevention and education, and deliver harm reduction, treatment and recovery, and enforcement interventions;

Whereas, Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS) are important harm reduction interventions; preventing overdose-related deaths and connecting people to primary care, treatment, rehabilitation, as well as other health and social services to address their needs (e.g., mental health support, food, housing);

Whereas, health and social service agencies across Algoma have identified that addressing the housing and homelessness crisis is a top priority in order to decrease harms associated with substance use;

Whereas, several public health agencies and organizations have called to decriminalize personal use and possession of substances, including but not limited to, Toronto Public Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies , and the Canadian Public Health Association;

Whereas, the Sault Ste. Marie and Area Drug Strategy includes several partners who are committed to responding to the opioid poisoning crisis, however sustained funding for a dedicated, fulltime coordinator to oversee the planning and implementation of a comprehensive strategy is lacking.

Therefore be it resolved, that the Board of Health for Algoma Public Health endorse the recommended actions (#1-7) from the letter from Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit to the Ontario Minister of Health (Appendix) , and write a letter to the Ontario Minister of Health urging for commitment to a more fulsome, comprehensive public health approach for substance use prevention and harm reduction in Ontario;

And further be it resolved, that the Board of Health for Algoma Public Health advocate to the Ontario Minister of Health the need for fulltime, sustained funding to support a Coordinator for the Sault Ste. Marie and Area Drug Strategy.

**CARRIED**

**iii. Appendix - Opioid Crisis Advocacy Letter - provided for information**

**b. Finance and Audit**

**i. Unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending July 31, 2022.**

L. Dunseath provided an overview of the financial statements.

**RESOLUTION  
2022-74**

**Moved:** L. Mason  
**Seconded:** L. Caicco Tett

THAT the Board of Health approves the Unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending July 31, 2022, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**c. Governance**

**i. Governance Committee Meeting Chair Report - September 2022**

D. Graystone provided a summary of the October 2022 Governance meeting.

**RESOLUTION  
2022-75**

**Moved:** B. Rankin  
**Seconded:** M. Onyuna

THAT the Board of Health accepts the Governance Committee Meeting Chair Report for September 2022.

**CARRIED**

**ii. Briefing Note: Annual General Meeting - for information**

**iii. Policy 02-05-001 Composition and Accountability of the Board of Directors**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-76**

**Moved:** L. Mason  
**Seconded:** B. Rankin

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **Policy 02-05-001 Composition and Accountability of the Board of Directors**, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**iv. 02-05-015 Conflict of Interest**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-77**

**Moved:** L. Caicco Tett  
**Seconded:** M. Onyuna

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **02-05-015 Conflict of Interest**, as amended.

**CARRIED**

**v. 02-05-025 Board Member Remuneration**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-78**

**Moved:** M. Onyuna  
**Seconded:** D. Graystone

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **02-05-025 Board Member Remuneration**, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**vi. 02-05-035 Continuing Education for Board Members**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-79**

**Moved:** L. Mason  
**Seconded:** D. Graystone

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **02-05-035 Continuing Education for Board Members**, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**vii. 02-05-060 Meetings and Access to Information**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-80**

**Moved:** L. Caicco Tett  
**Seconded:** B. Rankin

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **02-05-060 Meetings and Access to Information**, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**viii. Briefing Note - BOH By-Law 06-02 Assignment of CBO**

An amendment was discussed to notify the Board of Health Chair of changes to CBO appointments.

**ix. By-Law 06-02 Ontario Building Code Appointments**

**RESOLUTION  
2022-81**

**Moved:** D. Graystone  
**Seconded:** B. Rankin

THAT the Board of Health has reviewed and approves **By-Law 06-02 Ontario Building Code Appointments**, as amended.

**CARRIED**

## 6.0 Delegations / Presentations

### a. Planting seeds for collaboration: Relationship building with the Mennonite Community in Algoma

L. Bressan, M. Freer, and C.A. Agnihotri (HSHN) delivered a presentation on relationship building with the Mennonite Community in Algoma during COVID-19, and the collaboration between primary care, public health, and a priority population that worked to reduce inequities during the pandemic. We were privileged to be joined by four members of the Mennonite community, who reflected on the experience of working together. The presentation shed light on the Mennonite Community in Algoma and the unique influences to health services that they experience. Highlights of the presentation included: the partners who worked together, the work done together (knowledge exchange activities, home visits and community clinics) and the shared values that underpinned the action taken over the last few years (respect, cultural sensitivity, humility, and flexibility, adaptability, and creativity). Our shared approach allowed us to effectively work towards pandemic, primary care, and public health goals, together, to support health for all. The full presentation is available in the meeting package on the APH website.

## 7.0 New Business/General Business

### i. Letter of Support - Healthy Babies Healthy Children Funding

**RESOLUTION**  
**2022-82**

**Moved:** L. Mason  
**Seconded:** L. Caicco Tett

THAT, the Board of Health endorse the correspondence from Sudbury & Districts Public Health regarding Healthy Babies Healthy Children Funding.

**CARRIED**

## 8.0 Correspondence

- a. Letter to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities from the Niagara Region Board of Health regarding **Indoor Air Quality Improvement** dated July 5, 2022.
- b. Letter to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care from Niagara Region Board of Health regarding **Paid Sick Leave in Ontario** dated July 19, 2022.
- c. **Letter of Congratulations** to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care from Algoma Public Health July 28, 2022.
- d. Letter to the Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care from Niagara Region Board of Health regarding **Paid Sick Leave** dated September 7, 2022.
- e. Letter to the Premier of Ontario from Sudbury and District Public Health regarding **Saving Lives Through Lifejacket and Personal Flotation Device Legislation** dated September 22, 2022.

## 9.0 Items for Information

- a. alPHa - Message from Board of Health Chair dated July 6, 2022
- b. Ontario Newsroom - Ontarians Aged 18+ Second Booster Shot dated July 13, 2022
- c. alPHa Information Break dated July 19, 2022
- d. Ontario Newsroom - Vaccine Bookings to Open to Children dated July 21, 2022
- e. Ontario Newsroom - Ontario Introduces Plan to Stay Open
- f. alPHa Information Break dated August 19, 2022
- g. alPHa Information Break dated September 16, 2022
- h. Federal Dental Care Program - Northern Perspectives

## 10.0 Addendum

Not applicable

## 11.0 In-Camera - 7:12 pm

For discussion of labour relations and employee negotiations, **matters about identifiable individuals**, adoption of in-camera minutes, **security of the property of the board**, litigation or potential litigation.

### RESOLUTION

2022-83

Moved: L. Mason

Seconded: L. Caicco Tett

THAT the Board of Health go in-camera.

**CARRIED**

## 12.0 Open Meeting - 7:29 pm

Resolutions resulting from the in-camera meeting:

### i. Risk Management Model 2022-23

### RESOLUTION

2022-86

Moved: L. Caicco Tett

Seconded: L. Mason

THAT the Board of Health approve the Risk Management Model as presented.

**CARRIED**

## 13.0 Announcements / Next Committee Meetings:

### Finance & Audit Committee

Wednesday, October 12, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Video Conference | SSM Algoma Community Room

### BOH Reconciliation Training

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 @ 4:30 pm

Video Conference | SSM Algoma Community Room

### Board of Health Meeting

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 @ 5:00 pm

Video Conference | SSM Algoma Community Room

## 14.0 Monthly Evaluation

S. Hagman reminded Board members to complete their meeting evaluation.

## 15.0 Adjournment - 7:32 pm

### RESOLUTION

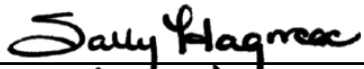
2022-87

Moved: M. Onyuna

Seconded: B. Rankin

THAT the Board of Health meeting adjourns.

**CARRIED**

  
S. Hagman, Chair

October 26, 2022

Date

  
Tania Caputo, Secretary

October 26, 2022

Date