

Back to Basics

Public Health at Work in Algoma
2023 Report to the Community



Algoma
PUBLIC HEALTH
Santé publique Algoma

A Message from the Board of Health Chair

In 2023, we transitioned from our emergency response to the COVID-19 global pandemic and refocused on restoring our core public health work. This includes population health assessment, health surveillance, health protection, disease and injury prevention, health promotion, as well as emergency preparedness and response.

This report to the community incorporates a public health balanced scorecard approach to capture the work of our programs as we prioritize the health needs of our community. A balanced scorecard approach helps us monitor our programs in four key areas: health status, community engagement, resources and services, and system integration and responsiveness. By using this structured approach, we can effectively measure our progress, identify areas for prioritization, development and improvement, and make informed decisions to grow our workforce, advance partnerships and ultimately enhance health outcomes for everyone in our community.

One highlight from 2023 was our collaboration with Indigenous partners to create a more welcoming, safer, and more culturally humble environment. We included Anishinaabemowin and Illilimowin on our external signage to show respect for the original languages of this land, helping Indigenous clients feel more comfortable accessing public health services. This effort is part of APH's broader Indigenous engagement strategy, focusing on Respect, Commitment, Trust, and Self-Determination, all aimed at the shared goal of Truth and Reconciliation.

This report showcases the breadth of the work we do across the Algoma region to promote and protect community health. As we get back to basics, we remain steadfast in our vision: health for all, together.

Sally Hagman

Chair, Board of Health

Dr. Jennifer Loo

Medical Officer of Health/CEO

2023 Board of Health

| Member | Approved By |
|---|--|
| Sally Hagman (Chair) | Township of Blind River, Township of Spanish, Township of North Shore |
| Luc Morrisette (1st Vice-Chair / Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee) | City of Elliot Lake |
| Deborah Graystone | Province of Ontario |
| Julila Hemphill | The Municipality of Wawa, Township of White River, Township of Dubreuville |
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Healthy Growth and Development

GOAL: To achieve optimal preconception, pregnancy, newborn, child, youth, parental, and family health.

- Mental health concerns during and post-pregnancy have been increasing in Algoma.
- Alcohol and tobacco use during pregnancy has declined, but gestational cannabis and drug use has risen in the last two years.
- APH works to provide parenting supports and promote resilience and optimal early childhood growth and development.
- Across the program area, there are public health nurses, a registered practical nurse, family support workers, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.



824

live births across
Algoma



47.7

pregnancies per 1,000
females aged 15-49



6.7

deaths per 1,000 live
births



592

calls to consenting new
moms within 48 hours
of new baby being born
across Algoma



198

home visits across
Algoma



89

Healthy Babies Healthy
Children families
who receive ongoing
support



17

community partners that APH
collaborates with to deliver the
Community Action Program
for Children and the Canadian
Prenatal Nutrition Program to
improve the health of pregnant
individuals and support
equitable health outcomes



109

community members
enrolled in the Canada
Prenatal Nutrition
Program



13

health equity
focused community
partnerships/outreach
to decrease health
inequities in priority
populations



17

parenting classes
delivered



56

visits with EarlyON
Centres to support
programs



3

community partnership
agreements



6

needs assessments
to engage the public
and partners on future
supports for parents/
caregivers

Healthy Growth and Development

Re-engagement of the Sault Ste Marie and Algoma Child and Family Network Planning Action Table

APH serves as one of the chairs of the Planning Action Table, that brings together **20** community agencies across Algoma that work with children and families to:

1. serve as the reference group for children's issues
2. create an integrated system of support services informed by community and parent engagement
3. enhance existing services and innovative approaches to support healthy child development, early learning and care.

Childcare

- All Star Children's Services
- Elliot Lake Child and Family Centre EarlyON (All Star)
- Blind River EarlyON Child and Family Centre (All Star)
- EarlyON Prince Centre
- Superior Children's Centre/ EarlyON (Wawa)
- Child Care Algoma/EarlyON

Education

- Algoma District School Board (ADSB)
- Conseil Scolaire Public du Grand Nord de l'Ontario
- Conseil Scolaire Catholique Nouvelon
- Huron Superior Catholic District School Board (HSCDSB)

Indigenous

- Nogdawindamin
- Metis Nation of Ontario
- Sault Ste. Marie Indigenous Friendship Centre/EarlyON (SSM IFC)

Municipal

- District of Sault Ste. Marie Social Services Administrative Board
- Sault Ste. Marie Public Library
- Sault Ste. Marie Innovation Centre
- Algoma District Services Administrative Board

Community Services

- Algoma Family Services
- Community Living Algoma (CLA)
- THRIVE

Health

- Algoma Public Health

School Health

GOAL: To achieve optimal health of school-aged children and youth through partnership and collaboration with school boards and schools.

- APH works to support school communities including parents, schools, school boards, students, and educators in achieving comprehensive school health with a focus on food and nutrition, healthy sexuality, substance use, mental health and resiliency and vaccine confidence
- Across the program area, there are public health nurses, a registered dietitian, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.

Child and youth self reported health behaviours in Algoma



35%

of 12-17 year-olds
had a drink of
alcohol



11.1%

of 12-17 year-olds
used an e-cigarette
in the past 30 days



83.3%

of 12-17 year-olds
have never used
cannabis (not even
once)



87.4%

of 12-17 year-olds
have never smoked



70.3%

of 15-19 year-olds
get sexual health
information from a
parent/caregiver



58.5%

of 15-19 year-olds
have had sex



66.7%

of 15-19 year-olds
used a condom the
last time they had
sex



19.2%

of 12-17 year-olds
said they had fair or
poor mental health



80

presentations to schools
and classes on topics
including healthy sexuality,
substance use and vaping,
nutrition, immunization
and more



26

welcome to Kindergarten
school events supported

Algoma Youth Wellness Hub (AYWH)



Algoma Public Health has been participating in Algoma Youth Wellness Hub partnership meetings since August 2022. In December 2023, the hub opened its Dennis Street site to youth aged 12 to 25. Staff from School Health and Community Wellness sit on the AYWH Action Team where we are working together to determine how to best support the youth in our community through this initiative.

Health Promotion

School Health

2023

Coverage rates for school immunizations (2022-2023 school year). Catch-up clinics continue into 2024.

12-year olds

 **59.6%** Hepatitis B

 **56.6%** HPV

 **78.1%** Meningococcal

 Immunized  Not immunized

17-year olds

 **48.7%** Tetanus

 **48.7%** Diptheria

 **48.5%** Pertussis



101

immunization clinics offered in
schools across Algoma



6,115

vaccines given in school
immunization clinics

Coordination of the Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program



The Northern Fruit and Vegetable Program is a collaborative effort across Northern Ontario. The program provides a minimum of two servings of Ontario grown vegetable and fruits per week from January to June to all elementary students.



Elementary schools participating: **52**

Number of students receiving fruits and vegetables in school two times a week across Algoma: **10,951**

Number of weeks offered in schools: **20**

Relationship with schools

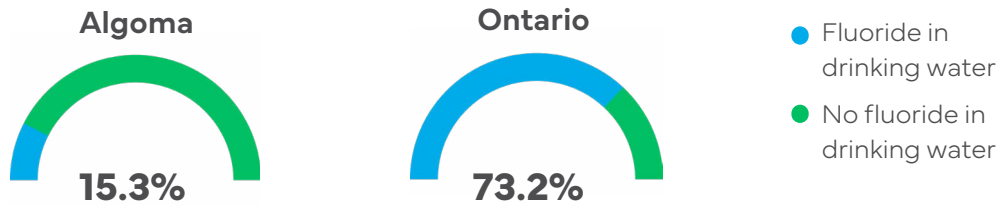
Our relationship with the school communities is a vital characteristic of the School Health program. Public Health Nurses have alignments with each school board and school across the district. We collaborate with these partners to reach the shared goal of improving the health of children and youth through the school setting.

Oral Health

GOAL: To achieve optimal oral health in school-aged children and seniors and reduce the burden of chronic disease.

- Two in every 5 students entering school in Algoma, has current or a history of tooth decay.
- Only 3 in 10 senior residents in Algoma reported having dental insurance coverage.
- APH works to ensure school-aged children and older adults across Algoma have good oral health.
- Across the program area there are registered dental hygienists, dental health educators and clerical support.

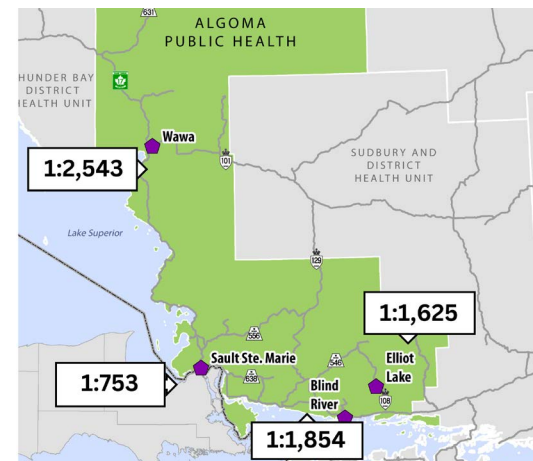
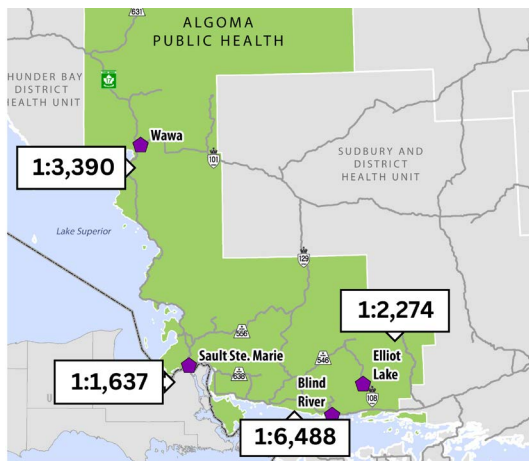
Community Water Fluoridation



In Algoma, Blind River, Elliot Lake and Wawa have access to community water fluoridation (**15.3%** of the population) compared to **73.2%** of Ontarians who benefit from fluoridated water.

In Algoma, on average, there is one dentist for **1,961.4 people**, compared to Ontario where there is one dentist for every **1,230 people**.

In Algoma, on average, there is one registered dental hygienist for every **930 people** compared to Ontario where there is one dental hygienist for every **1,028 people**.



Health Promotion

2023

Oral Health



52

elementary schools across the district partner with APH, leading to the successful dental screening of 100% of elementary schools in Algoma



4,312

children had dental screening in a school setting.

Central and East Algoma: 254
Elliot Lake: 192
Sault Ste. Marie: 3,200
North Algoma: 283



165

children enrolled in the Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO) through school screenings. HSO provides oral health coverage for eligible children



1,038

community members supported with oral health information and system navigation

Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP)



654

seniors accessed care through the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program



197

community members received dentures.

Elliot Lake: 90
Sault Ste. Marie: 104
Wawa: 3



Photo: l - r, Dennis Delguidice, APH dental hygienist

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Being on this program has motivated me with my oral health.

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- Dennis Delguidice
(OSDCP client)

Partnership: Garden River Wellness Centre



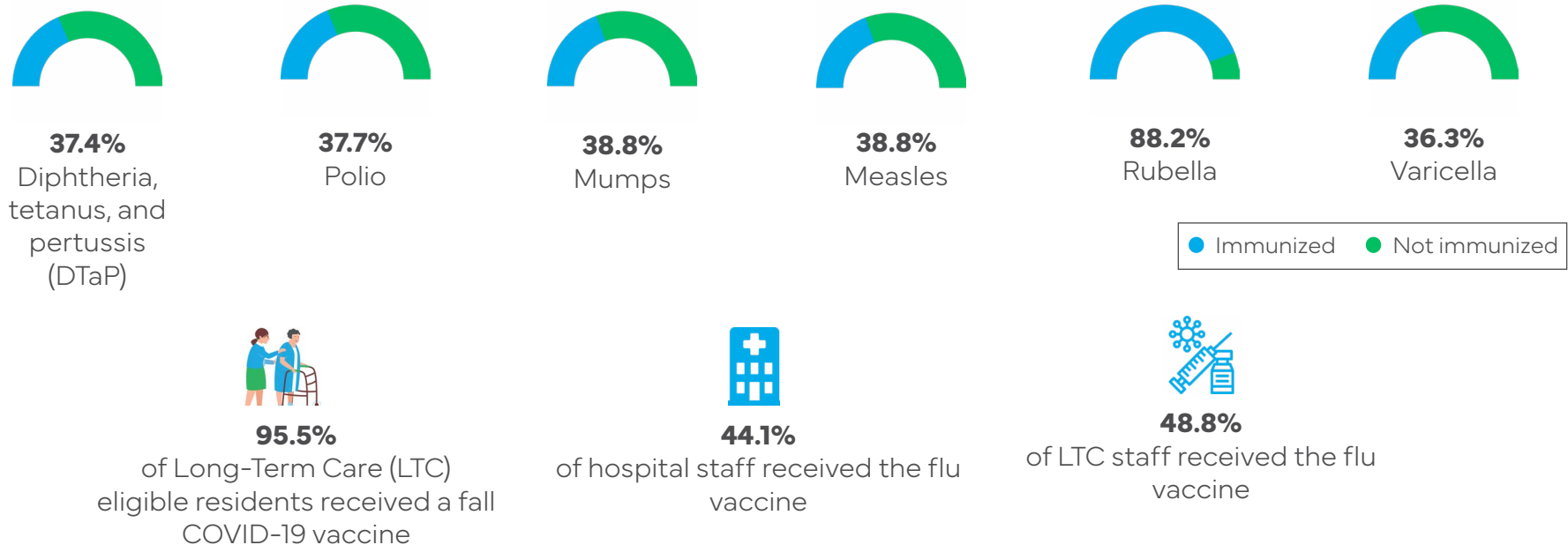
Algoma Public Health partners with Garden River Wellness Centre to offer the Children's Oral Health Initiative (COHI). This program offers free, preventative, oral health services and education to children up to 8 years of age; their caregivers; and pregnant people in the community. Services provided by COHI help parents and children learn healthy oral health habits and reduce tooth decay.

Immunization

GOAL: To reduce or eliminate the burden of vaccine preventable diseases through immunization.

- COVID affected coverage rates for childhood immunizations due to interruption of health services and APH continues to support catch up of these vaccines.
- The immunization program at APH works to ensure vaccines in Algoma are safe and effective, that there is high uptake of vaccines in Algoma residents, including priority populations particularly impacted by vaccine preventable disease
- Across the program area, there are public health nurses and clerical support.

Coverage rates for childhood immunizations (7 year olds, 2022-2023 school year) and priority populations



85

fridge inspections for partners in Algoma ensure that vaccines for the community are kept at the right temperatures



32

pharmacies that participate in Universal Influenza Immunization Program coordinated by APH



18,000

doses of flu vaccine distributed
1,126
doses of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) distributed

Health Protection

Immunization

2023

78 doses of rabies vaccine released



As situations arise, APH works with health partners to protect community members from rabies by releasing vaccine when needed. In the past year, the majority of rabies vaccine was released to be administered to community members following animal bites. The immunization program collaborated closely with public health inspectors to manage these cases effectively. Additionally, some individuals received vaccinations due to occupational requirements or as a precaution for travel, work, or volunteer activities.

10 clinics held in community settings or communities with no APH office

- White River
- Dubreuilville
- Spanish
- St. Joseph Island
- Desbarats
- Thessalon
- Iron Bridge
- Mennonite community (3x)

Partners we work with

- Physicians
- Public Hospitals
- Long-Term Care Facilities
- Retirement Homes
- Health Care Agencies
- Workplaces (Occupational Health)
- First Nations Partners
- Mennonite & Amish Partners
- Correctional Facilities
- Youth Justice Facilities
- Pharmacies
- Municipalities

Immunization School Pupils Act



For the first time in many years, the immunization program has issued notices regarding Immunization of School Pupils Act (ISPA).

This process was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Initially over 5000 students records were not reported or up-to-date with ISPA requirements.

During the 2022-2023 school year, efforts to obtain records and provide catch up vaccination appointments to thousands of students in Algoma were instated to help make the school environment safer, protecting children from outbreaks due to vaccine preventable diseases. Catch-up clinics continue into 2024.

Adverse Events Following Immunization

To ensure the safety of vaccines, we continually monitor and review any reported adverse events. These reports are reviewed by Public Health Nurses, Medical Officer of Health, Associate Medical Officer of Health and then forwarded to Public Health Ontario.

Based on the review, we provide personalized recommendations to clients on how to proceed with their immunizations.

Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-being

GOAL: To reduce the burden of chronic diseases of public health importance and improve well-being.

- Vegetable and fruit consumption is declining, with only **21.7%** of people in Algoma 12 years old and over consuming vegetables and fruit 5 times a day.
- In Algoma, **52%** of adults 18 and older meet the Canadian Physical Activity Guideline.
- APH works to promote environments that support active living and opportunities for an active life style; and ensure access to safe, affordable and nutritious food across, supporting healthy relationships with food across the lifespan.
- Across this program there are public health nurses , a registered dietitian, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.



7.5%

of 3-17 year olds use active transportation

42.4%

of 18-65 year olds use active transportation



19.4%

of Algoma residents are food insecure

(do not have access to food due to financial constraints)

Measuring Food Affordability in Algoma

Each year, Algoma Public Health conducts the Ontario Nutritious Food Basket (NFB) survey to determine the cost of healthy eating for families and individuals in Algoma.

The 2023 NFB data indicates that the estimated monthly cost of eating for a single individual is **\$423.32** and the estimated monthly cost to feed a sample family of four is **\$1,180.92.**



1

Board of Health resolution issued to support income-based policies to reduce household food insecurity



2

public reports released: Community Partner Interview Report and Food Insecurity Infographic



10

municipalities across Algoma were consulted regarding updates and revisions of their municipal official plans to include "healthy built environment friendly" approaches



12

local, provincial and regional committees to promote community well-being

Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-being

The Community Project Interview

33 community partners from across Algoma to identify current barriers and facilitators (factors that make change easier) that community members face to improve healthy eating and active living (HEAL) behaviours.

Results from this Community Partner Interview Project reinforced the need for public health to work collaboratively with multiple sectors and groups to address the social determinants of health and create supportive environments that make the healthy choice the easy choice.

3 barriers to improving HEAL behaviours identified



Lack of access to transportation



Inadequate income



Food insecurity

3 facilitators for improving HEAL behaviours identified



Organizational resources



Community and social services



Built environment and urban design



Bike to work

The City of Sault Ste. Marie, the Sault Cycling Club and Algoma Public Health partnered to promote this week-long event that encouraged alternative modes of transportation which would be considered “greener” choices and helping to reduce our collective carbon footprint.

While promoting climate change friendly choices, this initiative also promotes increased physical activity, and progressive approaches in municipal planning related to healthy built environments.

Substance Use & Injury Prevention

GOAL: APH works to reduce the harms associated with substance use and injury prevention.

- Algoma experiences higher rates of substance use overall.
- Rate of hospitalization in Algoma due to falls is increasing since 2019.
- Algoma Public Health works closely with a variety of partners, to support the health, wellness, and safety of people who use substances.
- Across the program, there are public health nurses, registered practical nurses, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.



21.1%

of residents 12 years and older report heavy drinking



407

Emergency Medical Service calls for suspected opioid poisoning



50

opioid related deaths. Opioid related mortality was **3 times higher** in Algoma than Ontario



16.2%

of those aged 20 years and older report smoking daily



The Northeastern Alcohol and Cannabis Team (NEACT)* collaborated to increase the reach of a mocktail campaign supporting Canada's Guidance on Alcohol and Health. Each public health unit contributed in various ways to the campaign, including message development, translation services, recipe sharing and video creation.

*NEACT is comprised of 5 Northern PHUs: Algoma Public Health, Porcupine Health Unit, Public Health Sudbury and Districts, North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit, Timiskaming Health Unit.



121,122 views on 13 mocktails videos promoting alcohol-free alternatives

Falls Prevention

Stay on Your Feet is a regional strategy aimed at improving the quality of life for older adults across northeastern Ontario. APH chairs the local Stay On Your Feet Coalition. Much of the focus was planning and promoting the STAND UP exercise classes for seniors.

The Seniors' Health Advisory Committee is hosted by APH.

Substance Use & Injury Prevention



Publishing peer-reviewed research on Northern Ontario's opioid-related deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic

APH submitted a research manuscript to a peer reviewed journal highlighting Northern Ontario disparities in opioid related deaths. Contributing to the evidence and demonstrating the unique needs of the North can help support advocacy efforts for enhanced programs, services and funding.

We are pleased to announce that the manuscript has been accepted for publication. It will also be featured in a "Special Section on the Public Health Response to the Overdose Crisis in Canada" in an upcoming issue of the Canadian Journal of Public Health.



15

community partner agreements to distribute harm reduction supplies



332,085

harm reduction supplies distributed



15,640

interactions at Needle Exchange Programs across all partner locations in Algoma



42

community partners with naloxone distribution service agreements



12,371

naloxone doses distributed



Toxic Drug Situational Assessment Interviews

The community wellness team has been engaging with community members and partners to better understand the toxic drug situation locally and how to move forward together to protect the wellbeing of people who use drugs and prevent harms related to substance use.

In December 2023, a workshop was organized with community partners to review findings from situational assessment interviews and analyze current strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats. While the workshop provided valuable insight into the local context, the most invaluable aspect was connecting with partners in-person to listen to each other and ask questions about services and programs.

Health Protection

Infectious Diseases

2023

GOAL: To reduce the burden of communicable diseases and other infectious diseases of public health significance.

- The number of cases of invasive group A streptococcal disease (iGAS) and infectious syphilis are increasing while the rate of chlamydia and gonorrhea infections were lower in 2023 than previous years.
- APH works to support infection prevention and control (IPAC) in our community through monitoring/ surveillance of rates of reportable diseases to inform public health action, case and contact management of reportable diseases, access to testing and treatment for priority populations, inspection of facilities to protect community members and offering support to facilities/partners throughout Algoma in creating environments that prevent infection and outbreaks.
- Across the program, there are public health nurses, public health inspectors, a nurse practitioner, a registered practical nurse, a health promotion specialist, an environmental assistant and program clerical.



44

cases of iGas
(Group A streptococcal disease)



62

new cases of latent
Tuberculosis (TB)



52

cases of Hepatitis C



1

community outbreak of
pertussis (e.g., whooping
cough)
(17 cases from this outbreak)



252

cases of Chlamydia



56

cases of Gonorrhea



44

cases of Syphilis



1,706

low cost/no cost birth control
provided



1,536

Nurse Practitioner services
provided



20,941

condoms distributed

605 diseases of public health significance were managed in 2023. This includes iGas (Invasive group A streptococcal disease), pertussis, varicella (e.g., chicken pox) and TB. Some diseases, like latent TB infections require follow up by APH for 3 months up to a year or more.

To support improved access for priority populations, APH's nurse practitioner collaborated with multiple community partners to offer a community clinic to do PAP smear for unattached patients. A Pap smear, also called a Pap test, is a procedure to test for cervical cancer in women.

Health Protection

Infectious Diseases

2023



50

licensed daycares
inspected



204

personal service
settings inspected



66

congregate living
settings inspected

HIV point of care testing offered

HIV testing is offered through a rapid point of care test and can be done anonymously. This approach to testing helps to identify undiagnosed individuals as early as possible to link them to care with hopes for the opportunity to live long, healthy lives and to prevent ongoing infections in our communities through contact management. We offer support, education, and access to medical care for treatment of this infection.

APH Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub

- There are **61** agencies/organizations connected to the IPAC hub.
- APH provided **123** services to individual hub agencies/organizations.
- We engaged in a needs assessment for the IPAC hub to determine community partners needs. **25** agencies/organizations responded and this information was used to guide the IPAC hub community of practice sessions and information sharing in 2023.
- APH held **4** IPAC hub community of practice sessions attended by the following sectors: acute care, long term care, retirement homes, Public Health Ontario, group homes, shelters, corrections, recovery homes).

Outbreak management in facilities

As part of the outbreak management team, we help declare outbreaks in places like long-term care homes, retirement homes, correctional facilities, and treatment centers. We also provide education, supporting these facilities in managing outbreaks effectively



293

cases of human exposure to
animals that were followed up on.
This includes assessment of the
situation and release of rabies
exposure treatment if needed.



72

mosquito traps from 17 sites
across Algoma are processed to
monitor for West Nile Virus (WNV).

There have been **0** cases of WNV
over the last 10 years.



345

ticks processed to monitor for
Lyme disease.

There have been **9** cases of Lyme
disease from 2014-2023.

Health Protection

Food Safety

2023

GOAL: To prevent or reduce the burden of food-borne illnesses.

- From 2019 to 2022, the average rate of food-borne illnesses in Algoma was 32 cases per 100,000 people.
- APH works to support community partners and the public in handling food safely, and respond effectively to mitigate local and emerging risks of food borne illness
- Across the program are there are public health inspectors, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.



58

cases of
foodborne illness
(Salmonella,
Campylobacter, E. Coli)



7

food handler courses
offered



422

food handlers certified



217

special event permits
issued



1,034

inspections for food
premises



2,982

entries in food safety campaign



9,392

views on food safety webpage



Public Health Inspectors (PHI) work diligently to respond to food safety related complaints within a 24-hour time frame.

Following a complaint, PHIs will complete a risk assessment to determine appropriate next steps.

105 food safety complaints responded to.



Home canning, mushroom foraging, fermented foods, backyard chicken coops, home based kitchens, and ghost kitchens have become increasingly popular within the Algoma district, requiring training for both Public Health Inspectors (PHI) and operators to ensure these emerging practices are conducted safely.

4 PHIs were trained to respond to specialty food products and preparation processes.

Safe Water

GOAL: To prevent or reduce the burden of water-borne illnesses related to drinking water.

To prevent or reduce the burden of water-borne illnesses and injuries related to recreational water use.

- From 2019 to 2022, the average rate of water-borne illnesses in Algoma was 13.8 cases per 100,000 people.
- APH works to reduce the incidence of waterborne-illness and protect the public through a multi-barrier approach that includes surveillance/ monitoring of water quality to inform public health action, supporting operators of drinking water systems, and promoting public water safety
- Across the program area there are public health inspectors, a health promotion specialist, environmental assistant, clerical support and learners.



4

waterborne illnesses



2

recreational water
advisories issued



49

adverse water quality
incidents responded to



15

drinking water
advisories issued



14

consultations provided
regarding private water
sampling results



38

public spas and pools
inspected



35

public beaches
inspected



1,512

views on interactive
beach map



Drinking Water Advisories

When adverse water quality results are received, public health inspectors collaborate with operators to review the findings, provide education and mitigation strategies, and issue advisories as needed. APH maintains an on-call system to ensure timely responses to water quality concerns and issues.

Safe Water



NOTICE

**THESE WATERS MAY CONTAIN
HIGH LEVELS OF BACTERIA
FOR UP TO 48 HOURS FOLLOWING
HEAVY RAINFALL, HIGH WINDS OR
INCREASED NUMBER OF WATERFOWL.**

**Prevent Swimmer's Itch:
Vigorously towel dry
after swimming.**



For further beach information visit: algomapublichealth.com

Our recreational water safety team sampled beaches throughout the Algoma district, covering more areas than in past years to help keep residents safe during the summer.

Permanent signs are posted at beaches across the district to inform users about current bacteria levels. These signs warn about possible high bacteria counts, caution about current high bacteria counts, and alert users to ongoing issues with water clarity and bacteria levels.

Partners we work with



- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
- Indigenous Services Canada
- Health Canada
- Public Health Ontario
- Public Health Labs
- Private Labs
- Municipalities
- Lake Associations
- Small Drinking Water System Operations
- Local Aviation companies
- Public Utility companies
- Local Water Treatment companies



Ongoing Collaboration with Public Health Ontario Lab for Accessible Water Sampling

Algoma Public Health has extended a user agreement with Public Health Ontario Lab to support small business operators with accessible water sampling. This partnership supports small business operators by ensuring they have access to a reliable water sampling and shipment program, facilitating ongoing public health and safety.

Health Protection

Healthy Environments

2023

GOAL: To reduce exposure to health hazards and promote the development of healthy built and natural environments that support health and mitigate existing and emerging risks, including the impacts of a changing climate.

- The number of extremely hot days is going up every year and is expected to keep rising by 2030.
- In Algoma, from 2019 to 2023, there were 23.2 emergency department visits for cold-related illnesses per 100,000 people, which is more than the visits for heat-related issues.
- Algoma Public Health (APH) is working to address health risks, monitor climate change data to guide public health actions, and reduce exposure to health hazards through health education.
- Across the program, there are public health inspectors, a health promotion specialist and clerical support.



4

extreme heat events:
3 - Sault Ste. Marie
1 - Wawa



10

air quality advisories issued



188

health hazard complaints responded to (e.g., sewage, pests, indoor/outdoor air quality)



Collaboration with Health Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada to install **Purple Air sensors** in select district locations that do not have access to air quality monitoring. Increased surveillance allows for improved health messaging and informed decision making. Several communities within the Algoma district do not have access to air quality monitoring. Proper air quality monitoring allows for the public to be informed and make appropriate decisions related to their health and the environment.

Through collaboration, three Purple Air sensors were sent to select district locations. Ongoing efforts are in place to explore the potential of additional air quality sensors.



We worked with the University of Toronto on a **research paper** that looked into how people get health information when the air quality is bad. Our contribution focused on the difficulties people in northern regions face when it comes to receiving this kind of information.

2023 Funding of Local Public Health

Municipal Levies *District of Algoma*

\$ 4,189,216

Public Health Funding *Ministry of Health*

\$ 14,288,528

Community Health Funding

*Ministry of Children & Social Services, Ontario Health North East,
Algoma Family Services*

\$ 1,468,596

Fees, Other Grants & Recoveries

\$ 593,000

Total for 2023 \$ 20,539,341



Financial fact! Did you know...

Local public health is funded by provincial and municipal taxpayer dollars. These dollars come from the same taxpayers.

In 2023, public health programs and services cost Algoma residents **\$182/ person** for the year, or **50 cents/person/day**, based on a 2021 census population estimate of 112,764 for the District of Algoma Health Unit.

Connect with Public Health

Join the Conversation

@algomahealth



Phone

Blind River: 705-356-2551 or 888-356-2551

Elliot Lake: 705-848-2314 or 877-748-2314

Sault Ste. Marie: 705-942-4646 or 866-892-0172

Wawa: 705-856-7208 or 888-211-8074

Email

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Website

algomapublichealth.com



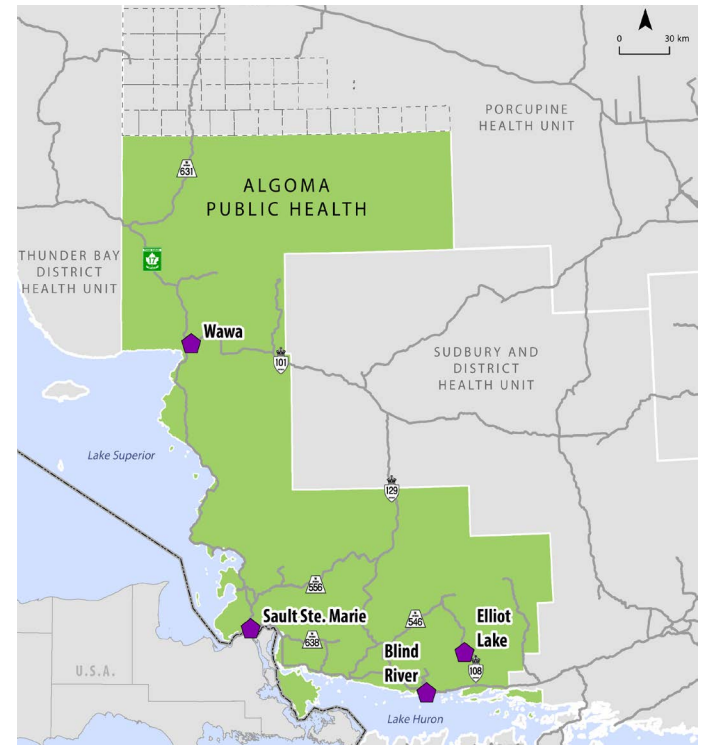
Algoma
PUBLIC HEALTH
Santé publique Algoma

THANK YOU

Algoma Public Health serves a vast area of over 41,000 square kilometers.

We are grateful for the strong partnerships we have with 21 municipalities, First Nations, Métis, Urban and Rural Indigenous communities, Amish and Mennonite communities, as well as various agencies and organizations across the region.

These collaborations are vital to our mission of promoting and protecting the health of our community and advancing health equity in Algoma.



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