Board of Health Meeting
MINUTES

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 - 5:00 pm
SSM Algoma Community Room | Videoconference

	BOARD MEMBERS	APH MEMBERS
PRESENT:	Sally Hagman Donald McConnell - 2nd Vice-Chair Luc Morrissette Beverly Nantel Suzanne Trivers - Board Chair Jody Wildman - 1st Vice-Chair Natalie Zagordo	Dr. Jennifer Loo - Medical Officer of Health & CEO Dr. John Tuinema - Associate Medical Officer of Health & Director of Health Protection Dr. Lyall Pacey – Resident Physician Kristy Harper - Director of Health Promotion & Chief Nursing Leslie Dunseath - Acting Director of Corporate Services & Manager of Accounting Services Trina Mount - Executive Assistant
GUESTS:	none	
REGRETS:	Sonny Spina, Sonia Tassone	

1.0 Meeting Called to Order: 5:02 pm

Dr. Loo welcomed Dr. Lyall Pacey, attending the meeting as a NOSM placement resident at Algoma Public Health.

S. Trivers welcomed the Board of Health members, read the land acknowledgment, took roll call, and asked for declarations of conflict of interest, to which none were declared.

a. **Land Acknowledgment**
b. **Roll Call**
c. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

RESOLUTION 2026-77
Moved: S. Hagman
Seconded: N. Zagordo

THAT the Board of Health agenda dated September 23, 2026, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3.0 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

RESOLUTION 2026-78
Moved: L. Morrissette
Seconded: J. Wildman

THAT the Board of Health meeting minutes dated June 24, 2026, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

4.0 Reports to the Board

a. **Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer Reports**
MOH Report - September 2026

Dr. Loo reported that APH has begun implementing the Board-approved strategic plan through leadership and team-level planning. An Agency wide launch is planned for November to which the current Board is welcome to attend even if not returning following elections. Invitations will be sent out once the event details are finalized.

A Planet Youth Algoma update was provided, with Dr. Loo confirming the Planet Youth contract is signed and outlining progress.

Dr. Loo spoke to APH's Truth and Reconciliation strategy, saying that Indigenous cultural-safety learning requirements are being formalized for staff and similarly will be incorporated into Board orientation/training. Also, an expansion of the Board of Health Skills Matrix to include Indigenous equity considerations at the governance level will be proposed at tonight's meeting. The Board was reminded of the invitation to attend APH's event on September 30, in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Indigenous knowledge carriers and partners will be participating.

RESOLUTION 2026-79	**Moved:**	D. McConnell
	Seconded:	N. Zagordo

THAT the report of the Medical Officer of Health and CEO for September 2026, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

b. Finance and Audit

i. Finance and Audit Committee Chair Report

J. Wildman outlined the Finance and Audit Committee Chair report, which was included in the meeting package. He highlighted that following discussion on the 2027 budget, the Committee recommended staff work toward an approximate 5 percent increase to the municipal levy for 2027.

RESOLUTION 2026-80	**Moved:**	J. Wildman
	Seconded:	S. Hagman

THAT the September 16, 2026, report of the Finance and Audit Committee Chair be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

ii. Policy 02-05-065 - Algoma Board of Health Reserve Fund

The above-named policy was recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee for approval, noting staff were asked to bring forward further modifications in the coming months to better connect the policy to the financing of capital assets.

RESOLUTION 2026-81	**Moved:**	J. Wildman
	Seconded:	N. Zagordo

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Policy 02-05-065 - Algoma Board of Health Reserve Fund, as presented.

CARRIED

iii. Briefing Note: Options for 2025 Public Health Cost-Shared Surplus

RESOLUTION 2026-82	**Moved:**	D. McConnell
	Seconded:	B. Nantel

THAT the Board of Health accepts the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee to approve allocation of the 2025 Public Health Cost-Shared Surplus to reserve funds in accordance with Board policy.

CARRIED

iv Unaudited Financial Statements ending July 31, 2026.

L. Dunseath provided an overview of the Financial Statements and responded to questions.

RESOLUTION 2026-83	**Moved:**	S. Hagman
	Seconded:	N. Zagordo

THAT the Board of Health accepts the Unaudited Financial Statements for the period ending July 31, 2026, as presented.

CARRIED

c. Governance

i. Governance Committee Chair Report

D. McConnell outlined the Governance Committee Chair Report, which was included in the meeting package, highlighted items within. He noted that while the Committee is recommending approval of the Procurement policy as presented today, it is with the understanding that it will be revisited following a comprehensive review by the incoming new Director of Corporate Services. He also spoke to the Performance Evaluation for the MOH /CEO policy, indicating that it does not effectively support the Board's or senior staff needs, resulting in it not being brought forth for approval; a replacement policy will be developed next year.

RESOLUTION 2026-84
Moved: D. McConnell
Seconded: J. Wildman

THAT the September 15, 2026, report of the Governance Committee Chair be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

ii. **Briefing Note: Applying an Indigenous Health Equity Lens to the BOH Skills Matrix**

RESOLUTION 2026-85
Moved: D. McConnell
Seconded: S. Hagman

THAT the Board of Health accepts the recommendation of the Governance Committee to approve the briefing note and the resulting revisions following the application of an Indigenous health equity lens to the BOH Skills Matrix (Appendix A), as presented.

CARRIED

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

RESOLUTION 2026-86
Moved: N. Zagordo
Seconded: L. Morrissette

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

CARRIED

vi. Policy 02-05-002 - Procurement

RESOLUTION 2026-87
Moved: N. Zagordo
Seconded: S. Hagman

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised Policy 02-05-002 - Procurement, as presented.

CARRIED

v. Briefing Note: Temporary delegation of Board of Health authority during the 2026 municipal election transition

RESOLUTION 2026-88
Moved: D. McConnell
Seconded: J. Wildman

THAT the Board of Health accepts the above-noted briefing note recommended by the Governance Committee as presented and proceed with the recommended actions within.

CARRIED

vi. Policy 02-05-020 - Travel Policy

RESOLUTION 2026-89
Moved: N. Zagordo
Seconded: S. Hagman

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Policy 02-05-020 - Travel, as presented.

CARRIED

vii. Policy 02-05-035 - Continuing Education for Board Members

RESOLUTION 2026-90	**Moved:** D. McConnell **Seconded:** L. Morrissette

THAT the Board of Health approves, Policy 02-05-035 - Continuing Education for Board Members as presented.

CARRIED

viii. Policy 02-05-055 - Board of Health Self-Evaluation

RESOLUTION 2026-91	**Moved:** N. Zagordo **Seconded:** S. Hagman

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Policy 02-05-055 - Board of Health Self-Evaluation as presented.

CARRIED

ix. Policy 02-05-060 - Meetings and Access to Information

RESOLUTION 2026-92	**Moved:** B. Nantel **Seconded:** D. McConnell

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Policy 02-05-060 - Meetings and Access to Information as presented.

CARRIED

x. Bylaw 06-02 - Ontario Building Code Appointments

RESOLUTION 2026-93	**Moved:** D. McConnell **Seconded:** J. Wildman

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Bylaw 06-02 - Ontario Building Code Appointments as presented.

CARRIED

xi. Bylaw 95-1 - To Regulate the Proceedings of the Board

RESOLUTION 2026-94	**Moved:** S. Hagman **Seconded:** B. Nantel

THAT the Board of Health approves the revised, Bylaw 95-1 - To Regulate the Proceedings of the Board as presented.

CARRIED

5.0 Correspondence - for action

a. Letter from MPP Robin Lennox, regarding Bill 121, Save a Life Act (Naloxone Kit Registration and Public Access), 2026, dated July 23, 2026 with Bill 121 attachment

b. Briefing Note: Endorsement of Bill 121 - Save a Life Act

The briefing note was reviewed and discussed, with queries arising on who will pay for kits and installation. S. Triver's read aloud the proposed resolution below. Algoma Public Health will provide a letter of support.

RESOLUTION 2026-95	**Moved:** S. Hagman **Seconded:** J. Wildman

WHEREAS MPP Robin Lennox has requested the Board of Health endorse Bill 121, the Save a Life Act, which would ensure placement of naloxone kits alongside publicly placed Automated External Defibrillators;

AND WHEREAS Algoma faces a greater burden of health harms, death, and health resource consumption related to opioids in comparison to average Ontario jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS Algoma Public Health and its community partners continue to provide access to naloxone as part of the Ontario Naloxone Program, and implement upstream strategies that prevent or delay harms associated with substance use;

AND WHEREAS broader access to naloxone will keep persons who use substances alive, allowing them to benefit from the Province of Ontario's commitment to expanded treatment, recovery, and social services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:
The Board of Health endorses Bill 121 and will provide a letter indicating its support.

AND FURTHER THAT Algoma Public Health will continue its work with community partners to improve local naloxone access; implement upstream strategies to prevent substance use; and embed this work in trauma and violence-informed approaches to effectively support Algoma's population.

CARRIED

c. Letter from Thunder Bay District Health Unit, regarding Improving Highway Safety in Northern Ontario, dated July 20, 2026

d. Briefing Note: Improvement to Safety on Algoma Highways

The briefing note was reviewed and discussed. Dr. Loo read aloud the points from the Northeastern Public Health letter that APH would be supporting. S. Triver's read aloud the proposed resolution below. Algoma Public Health will provide a letter of support.

RESOLUTION 2026-96	**Moved:** S. Hagman **Seconded:** D. McConnell

WHEREAS the Northeastern Public Health (NEPH) Board of Health submitted a letter on 14 January, 2026, requesting careful and urgent considerations of options for improving highway safety and access;

AND WHEREAS the residents of the Algoma Public Health Unit share NEPH's reliance on safe highways for accessing health services, education, recreation, and for keeping its economy in operation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health will submit a letter of support, endorsing the letter sent from NEPH.

CARRIED

6.0 Correspondence - for information

a. Letter from Lakelands Public Health, regarding Healthy Smiles Ontario Schedule of Dental Services and Fees, dated July 16, 2026

b. Email from alPHa, regarding Governance Continuity & Fiduciary Obligations During Municipal Election Transition, dated July 27, 2026

c. Email from alPHa, regarding Provincial Funding for Local Public Health Agencies, dated August 20, 2026

d. Email from alPHa, regarding 2026 Ontario Municipal Elections Resources, dated September 8, 2026

e. Letter from Lakelands Public Health, regarding Endorsement of Bill 121, Save a Life Act (Naloxone Kit Registration and Public Access), 2026, dated September 17, 2026

7.0 Addendum

8.0 In-Camera 5:48 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, information supplied in confidence to the Board of Health by the Province / Ministry of Health.

RESOLUTION 2026-97	**Moved:**	D. McConnell
	Seconded:	N. Zagordo

THAT the Board of Health go in-camera.

CARRIED

9.0 Open Meeting 6:27 pm

Resolutions resulting from in-camera meeting.

RESOLUTION 2026-100	**Moved:**	J. Wildman
	Seconded:	D. McConnell

THAT the Board of Health accepts the Risk Management Model for 2026-2027 as presented.

CARRIED

10.0 Announcements / Next Committee Meetings:

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
Wednesday, **September 30, 2026** - 2:00-3:30 pm

Finance and Audit Committee Meeting
Wednesday, **October 14, 2026** @ 5:00 pm
SSM Algoma Community Room | Video Conference

Board of Health Meeting
Wednesday, **October 21, 2026** @ 5:00 pm
SSM Algoma Community Room | Video Conference

11.0 Adjournment 6:29 pm

RESOLUTION 2026-101	**Moved:**	D. McConnell
	Seconded:	L. Morrissette

THAT the Board of Health meeting adjourns.

CARRIED



Suzanne Trivers, Chair

October 21, 2026

Date



Trina Mount, Executive Assistant

October 21, 2026

Date