

A regular meeting of the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit was held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, via teleconference. The meeting was open to the public and live streaming of the proceedings was provided for the media and public through a link on the Health Unit's website.

**PRESENT:**

**Nipissing District:**

Central Appointees

Karen Cook

Central Appointees

Sara Inch

Central Appointees

Jamie Lowery

Central Appointees

Dave Wolfe

Eastern Appointee

Rick Champagne (*Chairperson*)

Western Appointee

Jamie Restoule

**Parry Sound District:**

Southeastern Appointee

Marianne Stickland

Western Appointee

Jamie McGarvey (*Vice-Chairperson*)

**Public Appointees:**

Tim Sheppard

Catherine Still

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

Medical Officer of Health/Executive Officer

Dr. Carol Zimbalatti

Executive Director, Community Services

Louise Gagné

Executive Director, Finance

Isabel Churcher

Executive Assistant, Director's Office

Christine Neily

**REGRETS:**

Central Appointees

Maurice Switzer

Northeastern Appointee

Blair Flowers

**Recorder**

Executive Assistant, Office of the MOH/EO

Nelly Bothelo

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**1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Health members joined the meeting in person from the Nipissing Room at 345 Oak Street West, North Bay, Ontario, and virtually via Teams video conference.

Rick Champagne, Board of Health Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5.10 p.m. Mr. Champagne announced the recent appointment of Dr. Zimbalatti as the Medical Officer of Health by the Ministry.

**2.0 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda for the November 22, 2023, Board of Health meeting was reviewed, and the following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/01 \*Stickland/Still**

***Be It Resolved***, that the Board of Health Agenda, dated November 22, 2023, be approved.

The recorded vote was as follows:

**RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	R		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

*“Carried”*

**3.0 CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

**4.0 APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**4.1 Board of Health Minutes – September 27, 2023**

The minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on September 27, 2023, were reviewed and the following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/02 \*Cook/Restoule**

***Be It Resolved***, that the minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on September 27, 2023, be approved as presented.

The recorded vote was as follows:

**RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	R		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

*“Carried”*

#### 4.2. Board of Health In Camera Minutes – September 27, 2023

The minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on September 27, 2023, were reviewed and the following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/03 \*Still/Lowery**

***Be It Resolved***, that the in-camera minutes from the Board of Health meeting held September 27, 2023, be approved as presented.

The recorded vote was as follows:

**RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	R		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe			X
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

“Carried”

#### 5.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date: November 29, 2023  
Time: 5.30 p.m  
Location: 345 Oak Street West, North Bay, Ontario

#### 6.0 BUSINESS ARISING

##### 6.1. Intimate Partner Violence and Recommendations for Local Public Health Action

The following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/04 \*Inch/Lowery**

**Whereas**, the Ontario Public Health Standards identifies violence as a topic for consideration within the Substance Use and Injury Prevention Standard and requires public health units to use a comprehensive health promotion approach that addresses risk and protective factors to reduce the burden of preventable injuries in the health population;

**Whereas**, the Ontario Public Health Standards require public health units to monitor and assess trends related to injuries;

**Whereas**, public health units and their programs, such as Healthy Babies Healthy Children and Sexual Health, respond to disclosure of Intimate Partner Violence or support disclosing of Intimate Partner Violence within individual client care using best practices;

**Whereas**, it is well documented that Intimate Partner Violence is a serious preventable problem that significantly impacts victims and their children with effects across the lifespan and has considerable societal costs associated with medical and mental health services, lost productivity, and criminal justice and child welfare costs;

**Whereas**, responding to and preventing Intimate Partner Violence requires urgent and sustained evidence-based interventions by multisectoral agencies at a local and provincial level that are effective in preventing violence, and effective in changing risk and increasing protective factors, especially in adolescents and young adults;

**Whereas**, Intimate Partner Violence is generally underreported. Locally reported police, victim, and healthcare service data likely does not represent the full extent of Intimate Partner Violence, nor the risk and nature of the abuse and how it varies across specific population groups (e.g., 2sLGBTQ+, Indigenous) and age groups. Local level survey data is not available on Intimate Partner Violence, as collected through the Statistics Canada General Social Survey on Canadian's Safety (Victimization), or Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs);

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, That the Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit is committed to being a member on the Violence against Women Coordinating Committee (VAWCC) of Nipissing and VAWCC of Parry Sound, and support the efforts of staff to research and consult with local, regional, and provincial experts and community partners to enhance surveillance methodologies, knowledge of effective prevention strategies, promotion of local services, and capacity for collective action and evaluation; and,

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, That the Board of Health call on the Province of Ontario to invest in surveillance and analytical methodologies at a provincial and local public health unit level to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of Intimate Partner Violence and Adverse Childhood Experiences and to permit monitoring of trends, and data-informed action; and,

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, That the Board of Health call on the Province of Ontario to develop a Provincial Intimate Partner Violence strategy to support the identification, implementation, evaluation, and monitoring of effective violence prevention strategies; and

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, That the Board of Health call on the Province of Ontario and the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) to increase the funding allocated to the Healthy Babies Healthy Children Home Visiting program that is operated out of local public health units. The program directly services individual parents who need more support. Within this work, staff respond to disclosure of Intimate Partner Violence or support disclosing of Intimate Partner Violence. The annual budget for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children program has not increased in over 10 years.

**Furthermore Be It Resolved**, That the Board of Health provide correspondence of these resolutions to district municipalities, Ontario Boards of Health, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Merrilee Fullerton (Minister of Children, Community and Social Services), Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health), the Honourable Michael Kerzner (Solicitor General of Ontario), Josée Bégin (Assistant Chief Statistician, Statistics Canada), and Chairs of the VAWCC of Nipissing and VAWCC of Parry Sound.

The recorded vote was as follows:

**RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

"Carried"

## 7.0 REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the November 22, 2023, meeting was presented to the Board of Health for information purposes.

Comments and questions were taken and answered.

## 8.0 BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports to bring forward.

## 9.0 CORRESPONDENCE

Board of Health correspondence listed for the November 22, 2023 meeting is made available for review by Board members in the Board of Health online portal.

## 10.0 NEW BUSINESS

### 10.1 Endorsement of Ontario Public Health Association's Letter on Modernizing Alcohol Marketplace and Product Sales.

The following motion was read:

**Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/05 \*McGarvey/ Restoule**

***Whereas, Alcohol is a well-established risk factor for death, disease (including certain cancers, cardiovascular disease, liver disease), disability, unintentional injury, risky behaviour, social problems, and violence or aggressive behaviour;***

***Whereas, The Health Unit district has significantly higher rates of emergency department visits and hospitalizations due solely to alcohol consumption, compared to Ontario;***

***Whereas, The Health Unit district has significantly higher rates of heavy drinking episodes for persons aged 19 years or older compared to Ontario;***

**Whereas,** Increased availability and affordability of alcohol has a particularly negative impact on school-aged Ontarians, for whom the risk of adverse outcomes from drinking is greater than adults. Alcohol is a leading risk factor for worsening academic performance, injury, violence, suicide, and death in youth;

**Whereas,** Within the Health Unit district a majority of high schools (87%) and almost two-thirds of post-secondary institutions (63%) are within a 3km distance of an alcohol retailer.

**Whereas,** When alcohol becomes more available and affordable, there is an associated increase in healthcare costs, lost productivity, criminal justice and other direct costs;

**Whereas,** The 2019 regulatory changes that have led to the relaxation of alcohol control policies have already placed Ontarians at an increased risk of harms and health related outcomes;

**Therefore Be It Resolved,** That the Board of Health endorse the [Letter](#) from the Ontario Public Health Association on Modernizing Alcohol Marketplace and Product Sales to raise awareness about, and work to reduce the impact of increased access to alcohol; and

**Furthermore Be It Resolved,** That the Board of Health call on the Province of Ontario to implement the following policy measures:

- Reduce retail density
- Maintain or decrease hours of sale, with no exceptions
- Strengthen Ontario’s alcohol pricing policies including taxation, minimum pricing or other means.
- Stop further privatization of alcohol sales
- Apply a whole of government, health-in-all-policies approach to alcohol modernization, and

**Furthermore Be It Resolved,** That the Board of Health provide correspondence of these resolutions to district municipalities, Ontario Boards of Health, Victor Fedeli, MPP (Nipissing), Graydon Smith, MPP (Parry Sound-Muskoka), John Vanthof, MPP (Timiskaming-Cochrane), the Honourable Doug Ford (Premier), the Honourable Sylvia Jones (Minister of Health) and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA).

The recorded vote was as follows:

**RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:	Name:	For:	Against:	Abstain:
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

“Carried”

## 11.0 IN CAMERA

**11.1 A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instructions to be applied to any negotiations carried on by or on behalf of the Board.**

### **Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/06 \*Stickland/Lowery**

***Be It Resolved***, that the Board of Health move in camera at 6:04 p.m. to discuss item #11.1. A position, plan, procedure, criteria or instructions to be applied to any negotiations carried on by or on behalf of the Board.

The recorded vote was as follows:

#### **RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

*“Carried”*

At the close of the in camera session, the following motion was read:

### **Board of Health Resolution #BOH/2023/11/07 \*Wolfe/Still**

***Be It Resolved***, that the Board of Health rise and report at 6:59 p.m.

The recorded vote was as follows:

#### **RECORDED VOTE FOR CIRCULATION: Yes / No (Please circle one)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>For:</b>	<b>Against:</b>	<b>Abstain:</b>
Rick Champagne	X			Jamie McGarvey	X		
Karen Cook	X			Jamie Restoule	X		
Blair Flowers	A			Marianne Stickland	X		
Catherine Still	X			Maurice Switzer	R		
Sara Inch	X			Dave Wolfe	X		
Jamie Lowery	X			Tim Sheppard	X		

*“Carried”*

Direction was provided; there was nothing further to report.

## 12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the Board of Health Chairperson adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 7.00 p.m.

*Original Signed by Rick Champagne*

*2024-01-24*

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Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

*Original Signed by Nelly Bothelo*

*2024-01-24*

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Nelly Bothelo, Recorder

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)