

# Medical Officer of Health: Report to The Board of Health

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# Medical Officer of Health Update

## *COVID-19 Update*

The seventh wave of the pandemic is on a downward trajectory throughout the province and within the Health Unit district. There has been a gradual decrease over the last 7 to 8 weeks.

To date, relevant indicators such as cases (of those eligible for testing), hospitalizations, ICU admissions, deaths, percent positivity, and institutional outbreaks have been in decline. The BA. 5 Omicron variant continues to dominate in Ontario.

As the Fall approaches and return to school has begun, it is anticipated that more cases of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses will ensue. It is unclear at this time as to the impact it will have on primary care and hospitals.

To prepare for the potential demand for hospital-based health care needs, the government has introduced their “Plan to Stay Open: Health System Stability and Recovery”. This includes operationalizing the *More Beds, Better Care Act, 2022*, S.O. c 16 Bill 7 (Ontario.ca) receiving Royal Assent on August 31, 2022. The Act is aimed at facilitating the admission of eligible patients, who are clinically determined as needing an alternate level of care (ALC), into a long-term care home, while they wait for placement in a preferred home.

Effective September 21, 2022, the remaining provisions of the Act came into force. In addition, changes to the regulations under the *Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021* (O. Reg. 484/22) and the *Public Hospitals Act* (O. Reg. 485/22, O. Reg. 486/22) came into effect. The most significant change is the ability of Home and Community Care Support Services (HCCSS) placement coordinators, working collaboratively with hospitals and long-term care homes, to facilitate an eligible ALC patient’s admission into a temporary long-term care home, while they wait for a preferred home.

## *Immunization Update*

Since the last Board of Health update, there have been additional vaccine eligible age groups for both primary series and boosters. All age groups from 6 months and above have a recommended vaccine available to them. New vaccines (6 months to 5 years and bivalent boosters for example) have also been authorized for use and more will be accessible soon.

Since the beginning of this year, there has been a steady decline in the demand for COVID-19 vaccinations. There are likely many reasons, including, pandemic fatigue, most of the population being infected at one time or another combined with high rates of vaccination among high-risk groups, the perception of low risk in the younger age groups, and the desire to learn to live with COVID-19. Encouragingly, in the last several weeks there has been a renewed interest in receiving the bivalent vaccine for those eligible.

While it remains unknown as to how effective the newly authorized vaccines will be in reducing COVID-19 transmission, there is consensus among immunization experts that the vaccines will continue to be highly effective preventing serious illness, hospitalizations, and death. It is for this reason that public health strongly recommends keeping up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations when eligible to receive them especially in high-risk groups.

The Health Unit continues to be able to meet vaccine demand throughout the district and continue to coordinate efforts to reach those at high-risk and those with equity and accessibility challenges.

### *Influenza*

Throughout Ontario, influenza remains at low inter-seasonal activity levels (0.2% positivity). We will be reporting sporadic influenza activity for week three (September 11 – September 17, 2022). There was one laboratory confirmed case of influenza A reported in week three. There were no institutional influenza outbreaks during week three. Since the beginning of the season, there have been a total of one case of influenza A, zero cases of Influenza B and zero co-infections with A and B reported in the district.

The southern hemisphere, usually a predictor of what we might experience, had an early onset (April) and peak when normally the season is from June to September. It was a particularly harsh influenza season (reported as the worst in 5 years) impacting their health care system. Data from the southern hemisphere regarding vaccine match to circulating influenza strains is unavailable at this time.

It is anticipated that Influenza vaccines will be available shortly for the high-risk groups followed thereafter for the general population. Plans are in place and every effort is made to coordinate the administration of influenza vaccinations with those eligible for COVID-19 vaccines.

## **Programs and Services Updates**

### **Corporate Services**

#### *Building and Maintenance*

- Arranged for daytime custodians to have mask fit testing for additional PPE for protection against Monkeypox.
- Relocated items from the Burk's Falls office to prepare for closing and returning to landlord.
- Moved furniture from the Burk's Falls office to community partners and staff as required.
- Annual exterior windows cleaning conducted at the North Bay office.
- New furniture for the Parry Sound office was designed and ordered.
- Prepared one of the trailers for remote COVID-19 clinics.
- Started the process of obtaining quotes for snow plowing and removal.
- Started the process to receive quotations for HVAC maintenance.
- Required upgrade to the fire suppression system at 345 Oak Street West.
- Annual sprinkler preventative maintenance conducted.
- Weekly monitoring of PPE cleaning supplies for COVID-19 (sanitizer and disinfectant).
- Hood maintenance for Teaching kitchen conducted.

#### *Communications*

- Communications is keeping up with recent COVID-19 developments but is also taking on more program work and shifting focus to reach priority populations with messaging on other diseases, such as monkeypox and syphilis. Being able to focus on a wider range of topics has allowed Communications to proctor third-year nursing students from Nipissing University again this Fall.
- Other projects include Stay on Your Feet's Fall Prevention Month, disseminating information on vaping laws around schools, assisting with harm reduction messaging, and with one-off program social media needs.

- To ensure the Health Unit is up to date with website accessibility and function, Communications is project managing the internal requirements to update the website this year, including the creation of a Health Unit photo and video library. The new website is on track to launch in November 2022.

### *Emergency Preparedness*

Manage/coordinate Health Unit emergency response activities:

- Emergency Management work continues in support of COVID-19 response and is primarily focused on IMS functions, municipality liaisons, and support for the immunization strategy with the new bivalent vaccine becoming available.
- The Acting Manager of Emergency Management continues managing responsibilities for the COVID-19 Call Centre (general and vaccine bookings) with staff currently extended until October 2022.
- Internal emergency preparedness work continues with a focus on staff safety procedure changes and emergency code reviews.

### *Information Technology*

- Upgrading Oral Health dental system.
- Enhanced security awareness training for staff.
- Ongoing data retention and migration project activities.
- Siemens server/software upgrade for Building Management System.
- Implementation of Office 365 on-site backup.
- Backup server/storage capacity upgrades.
- Enhanced 24/7 monitoring and remediation of organizational-wide cyber security events due to increasing threats.
- Ongoing security, event, and intrusion detection / prevention monitoring across on premise and cloud-based environments.
- Creating and revising security solutions and process in response to new and emerging attacks and threat vectors.

### *Planning and Evaluation*

#### **Population Health Assessment and Surveillance**

- A second epidemiologist joined the team in August, to fill a vacancy from April.
- The Master of Public Health practicum student finished their practicum in August with a completed draft chapter of an organizational climate change vulnerability and adaptation assessment on extreme weather events and provided four eco-art justice sessions for Indigenous youth across the districts in collaboration with Healthy Living staff.
- A summary of the case-control study results from the COVID-19 outbreak investigation at the Skyline-Lancelot apartment building was shared with building resident study participants, and a summary of the investigation was shared with collaborating partner organizations.
- The Surveillance team continues to monitor COVID-19 trends and provide analyses as needed (e.g., COVID-19 vaccination coverage by neighbourhoods, clinic planning estimates, dashboard updates, etc.).

- Information collected through the Overdose Reporting System is sent to more than 160 community partners in weekly updates through the Health Unit's interactive [surveillance dashboard](#). The Health Unit also continues to collect data based on the increasing trends noted locally during the pandemic.

### **Health Equity:**

- Following a two-year deployment to Healthy Schools, Planning and Evaluation's second social determinants of health public health nurse has returned to the team. Their return will support organizational planning and organizational capacity building to better understand and identify health inequities, to mobilize resources, and to take effective action to improve equity in our region.
- In collaboration with community partners providing trusted community spaces, continue to support COVID-19 vaccine clinics to reach individuals who are under-housed, transient, or experiencing homelessness, individuals who use substances, and newcomers to Canada.
- Applications are being accepted from community partners on the use of the Health Unit's available Health Equity Training funds to support the work of community partners as they continue to respond to the unique needs of populations facing health and social disparities in the Health Unit region.

### **Planning**

- The Health Unit's revised planning documents will be released in September with expectations on programs and services to plan for a one-year (2023) cycle, with consideration for how they can meaningfully contribute to strategic recovery priorities and address inequities in their work. Modified planning tools will support the organizational planning process and additional support will be provided to staff as required.

## *Quality Assurance*

### **Policies and Procedures**

- Totals for policies, procedures, and associated documents issued between January 1 and August 31, 2022, are: 114 documents issued, and 91 new documents assigned.

### **Quality Issue Reports (QIR)**

- Total QIRs completed (closed) between January 1 and August 31, 2022, are 52: 10 at level 0, 34 at level 1, and 8 at level 2.
- Classifications are as follows: 28 impacting people (third party, personnel, or client), 14 related to organizational/professional standards, 9 related to resources, and 1 related to reputation.

## **Clinical Services**

### *Communicable Disease Control*

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be the focus of the Communicable Disease Control (CDC) program. The program continues to manage COVID-19 outbreaks in congregate living settings and is collaborating with the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub and congregate living settings to prepare for the upcoming influenza season and additional waves of COVID-19.

The IPAC Hub regularly shares IPAC best-practice resources and completes IPAC assessments in long-term care homes, retirement homes, and other congregate living settings. In June, July, and August 2022 there

were 492 interactions with congregate living settings. These interactions include outbreak management, IPAC assessments, exposure assessments, and consultation regarding admissions and transfers.

The CDC program is collaborating with Sexual Health and Vaccine Preventable Diseases to prevent and manage monkeypox cases. To date, there has been one positive case in the Health Unit area.

Five nursing students from Nipissing University are completing placements in the CDC program. A fourth-year nursing student has been placed in the program from September 2022 to January 2023. Four nursing students in their third year are completing a hand hygiene project with area school-aged children.

### *Professional Practice*

The Professional Practice Manager will be facilitating a larger number of student placements for the upcoming Fall intake. The students will include a total of 20 from nursing, 2 from dietetics, 1 from social work, and 1 from addictions and mental health. To prepare staff for the influx of students a preceptorship workshop was held in late August.

A program called Transition to Public Health Nursing that has been offered to new nursing staff since 2011 has been put on hold since the start of the pandemic, and as a result, has left a gap in training for the many new nursing staff hired. However, as some pre-COVID-19 activities begin to resume, a review and evaluation of the program occurred resulting in a decision to not only resume the program but expand it to include not only new nursing staff, but new hires of all disciplines.

The program will now be called Orientation to Public Health, and over the next few months it will be updated to be inclusive of the diverse professional disciplines needed to achieve the activities of public health. The program is planned to be rolled out in early 2023 with an aim to include all staff that were hired during the pandemic.

### *Oral Health & Vision Screening*

This Fall, the Oral Health team is focusing on re-launching our regular oral health and vision screening programs in schools throughout the district. This involves visiting approximately 60 schools and providing oral health screening to approximately 4,400 students (JK, SK, grade 2, and 7 students in medium risk schools, and JK, SK, grade 2, 4, and 7 students in high-risk schools), and vision screening to approximately 1,000 students (SK students).

### *Sexual Health/Clinical Information*

#### **Needle Syringe Program Services:**

Earlier this year, the West Parry Sound Health Centre's Emergency Department was onboarded as a satellite Needle Syringe Program site. This satellite site offers harm reduction supplies to individuals on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week through the hospital emergency department.

The program is also onboarding the nurse-practitioner led clinics/nursing stations in rural areas surrounding Parry Sound, as well as the Parry Sound Indigenous Friendship Centre.

#### **Outreach Clinics for Sexually Transmitted & Blood Borne Infection Testing:**

Outreach clinics offering testing for sexually transmitted & blood borne infections (HIV, Hepatitis B, C, and Syphilis) were held at The Gathering Place, the AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area, and West Nipissing Food Bank from May to July 2022. A total of 20 tests were conducted through these clinics. There are plans to collaborate with community partners to offer similar outreach clinics in Mattawa, Parry Sound, and Sundridge this Fall.

### *Vaccine Preventable Diseases*

Vaccine Preventable Diseases team continues to actively support the COVID-19 campaign, leading community clinics across the district. Availability of a bivalent COVID-19 vaccine in Ontario has driven an increased demand in recent weeks. Thus far, the Health Unit has been able to meet this demand in all five geographic vaccine administration hubs and is coordinating with partners to enhance access beyond these hubs.

As a result of restrictions and school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, vaccination clinics were paused. In the interim, several strategies were initiated to target these families and students. Community-based school clinics were offered across the district as an alternative. Additionally, the families of all eligible school-aged students who were identified as having outstanding required and recommended school vaccines as per the *Immunization of School Pupils Act* and the Hepatitis and HPV Programs were contacted. Many families took advantage of the opportunity to attend targeted in-house school clinics held weekly in North Bay and Parry Sound.

The planning process for both the school program and the annual influenza program are well under way. For the school program, all schools in the district with students in grades seven through 12 have confirmed in-school clinics throughout the 2022/2023 school year. With respect to the annual influenza program, the Health Unit is on track to receive vaccine in late September that will be distributed to community partners in an efficient, organized, and equitable manner. Community and in-house clinics are scheduled for later in the Fall.

Lastly, Ontario experienced an outbreak of Monkeypox. We are working closely with community partners to share information and ensure that vulnerable populations in our district were provided with education on prevention, identification, and treatment. Pre-exposure prophylactic (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylactic (PEP) vaccine are available to protect people and help control the spread.

## **Community Services**

### *Environmental Health*

Environmental Health is wrapping up summer work. So far this year, the Health Unit has received and processed 362 community food event applications from across the district. Public health inspectors conducted 61 community food event inspections targeting larger, higher risk events. Food handler certification was delivered to 168 individuals in the district, of which 99% were successful. To date, 870 food compliance inspections and 110 re-inspections have been conducted; three facilities received a red sign resulting in a closure because a health hazard was identified. Facilities remained closed until regulatory requirements were met and health hazards were eliminated. Real-time inspection results of food compliance inspections can be viewed on the [Check Then Go](#) webpage on the Health Unit's website.

Environmental Health inspected 41 seasonal outdoor swimming pools and spas of which three resulted in closures due to an identified health hazard. The facilities remained closed until the health hazard was



eliminated and was safe for use. The season for outdoor swimming pools and spas is not over and we are continuing our inspections of these facilities. Forty-six public beaches were tested for bacteria this summer. Based on the sampling and follow-up, all beaches remained opened without swimming advisories.

Environmental Health continues to trap mosquito vectors to monitor for West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis. No pools have tested positive for either of the viruses. To date, 62 ticks have been submitted to the laboratory for the detection of *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the causative agent of Lyme disease. One tick submitted was positive for Lyme Disease. Ongoing passive surveillance is continuing this Fall.

Tobacco enforcement officers patrolled tobacco and cannabis retail store vendors and checked compliance at various workplaces and sports fields. Education is provided to parents and their children about smoking and vaping rules on school property.

### *Healthy Families*

Mothercare is a weekly program serving prenatal mothers and postpartum families with babies up to 2 months old, in conjunction with the Children's Aid Society. The program was successfully offered in the Health Unit's Teaching Kitchen throughout July in a hybrid model of in-person and virtual and has resumed full in-person operation as of September. Securing volunteer child minding for older siblings continues to be a challenge.

While the Burk's Falls office has closed, Healthy Families (HF) services continue uninterrupted in the East Parry Sound area. The four Healthy Families staff assigned to the geographic area will continue to provide Healthy Babies Healthy Children home visiting, breastfeeding support, phone follow-up to all postpartum families, group education, as well as participate in local community partner initiatives. Rather than attending an office for Breastfeeding Clinic appointments, resident families who would benefit from breastfeeding assessment and intervention by a public health nurse will be seen in their homes or another convenient community location.

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children program will be conducting an outreach and promotion plan to remind community health and social providers about the service offered and eligibility requirements, in an effort to increase referrals post pandemic.

### *Healthy Living*

International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) takes place every year on August 31 and is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose. IOAD aims to raise awareness about overdoses in our community and teach the public that an overdose is preventable through the facilitation of discussion and action, using evidence-based approaches and drug policy to help reduce overdoses.

The Health Unit, in partnership with various community partners, volunteers, and the public, commemorated IOAD with a Gathering of Hope Ceremony that took place in Leger Square outside of City Hall on August 31. The region has experienced a significant increase in opioid-related deaths over the past three years. In 2019, the Health Unit's region reported 19 opioid-related deaths. This number grew to 50 opioid-related deaths in 2020, and 47 opioid-related deaths in 2021. In the first quarter of 2022, there have been 13 confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths in the Health Unit region.

The event included an opening and closing ceremony, guest speakers, free snacks for all community members, local resources and informational booths, naloxone training, stick painting, chair signing and a moment of silence in our garden of remembrance, and much more. It was a powerful day that provided an opportunity for people to publicly mourn in a safe space while providing supportive messages to those with lived and living experience that they are valued, loved, and supported. It also worked to help eliminate the stigma that exists around substance use in the community.



The Health Unit also display 97 purple flags on our property in North Bay on August 31 to remember the 97 lives lost to opioids in 2020 and 2021. This provided a strong, visual representation of lives lost in our area to opioids.



In addition, the local IOAD Planning Committee made additional strides this year to create awareness around the importance of this day. A banner to recognize IOAD was hung outside the parking garage at the Northgate Mall in North Bay. In memory of those who have lost their lives to an overdose or

experienced a permanent injury related to drug use memorial plaques were also placed in West Nipissing, off King Street, and Parry Sound, at the Mary St. Centre. A memorial plaque/garden of remembrance is currently present across from City Hall in North Bay.



**The 2022 International Overdose Awareness Day events and activities were hosted and sponsored by the following agencies within the City of North Bay:**

- AIDS Committee of North Bay & Area
- Canadian Mental Health Association – North Bay & District
- Canadian Tire North Bay
- City of North Bay
- Community Counselling Centre of Nipissing
- Community Drug Strategy of North Bay & Area
- North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre
- North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
- Nurture North MAR Clinic
- Ontario Addiction Treatment Centres (OATC)
- Pharmasave Marshall Park Pharmacy

### *Healthy Schools*

#### **Vaping Among Youth**

Vaping has substantially increased among youth in recent years. Between 2017 and 2019, e-cigarette use among [Ontario](#) middle and high school students more than doubled, increasing from 11% to 23%. Thirteen percent (13%) were using weekly or daily. Most vaping liquids contain nicotine, which is highly addictive. Exposure to nicotine during the teenage years, while the brain is still developing, can [negatively impact](#) learning, memory, concentration and attention, and can worsen symptoms of anxiety and depression.

Based on this situation, and given the lack of educational resources at the time, [Vaping: What's the Hype?](#) was developed in early 2020 in collaboration with local educators. This toolkit is an interactive, digital, and hands on resource to help youth learn about vaping to become informed decision makers for their health. It links with the Ontario curriculum, is based on tobacco industry denormalization strategies, incorporates evaluation, and is meant to be part of a comprehensive prevention approach.



The mental health leads from six school boards within the Health Unit and neighbouring Northern health unit districts wanted to bring *Vaping: What's the Hype?* to their schools. They collaborated with public health to create a [video](#) giving students and educators an overview of the toolkit and how to use it.

During COVID-19, there was a lack of regular school supports for students, reduced public health capacity to focus on prevention, and few available vaping cessation services – all while vape companies continued to innovate and target young people in appealing and creative ways. Substance use, including nicotine use, [increased](#) among young people during this time. In spring 2022, schools flagged that an increased number of students were vaping on school property, including in washrooms.

Using the health promotion [planning](#) framework, Healthy Schools determined a strategic process to support schools and families. A meeting was arranged with coterminous school boards, tobacco enforcement officers and community health promoters. Based on the situation and trends described by school partners at the meeting, objectives and activities were developed. Project outputs included:

- Social media and radio ads, encouraging parents to learn about vaping laws and talk to their children
- [Instagram posts](#) aimed at youth to increase awareness of the vaping laws and potential fines
- Updated website and resources on vaping health effects, educational resources, parent resources, cessation supports and school enforcement information
- Increased tobacco enforcement officer presence at schools
- An offer to support schools with updating student handbooks, attend student assemblies in the Fall, and engage youth voice to enhance student spaces and help create [safe and accepting schools](#)

Evaluation is underway for this project to learn whether the chosen strategies are working and to inform work moving forward. The evaluation includes website and social media analytics, a survey, and conversations with school and school board partners as the school year progresses.

## Finance

The following reports were submitted over the summer months: Second Quarter Financial and Statistical Report - Ministry of Health (MOH); Annual Application for Medical Officer of Health Initiative Funding - MOH; Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) Budget 2022-23; Ministry of Child, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) and HBHC Annual Year End Report for 2021-22 - MCCSS; Stay on Your Feet budget 2022-23 and Annual Year End Report for 2021-22 - Ontario Health North. We also worked with programs on various other grants assisting with applications and setting up budgets. These include a 2 year federal grant, totaling \$250,000, from Government of Canada, Healthy Communities Grant, International Overdose Awareness Day of approximately \$15,000 and Change in Substance Use Behaviour Research Project of \$56,000.

Work has begun on retro payments resulting from union negotiations and will continue for a couple more months. Financial assistance was given to the negotiations committees helping with costing of scenarios and committee attendance. A briefing note was written to assist with application for a delegation at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference and briefing of board member leading the delegation.

## Human Resources

### *Compensation*

Ontario Public Service Employee Union (OPSEU) rate increases and retro payments are complete following ratification of the new collective agreement. The second installment of the retention payment for nurses under the Provincial Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses is being prepared. To be eligible for the second retention payment, nurses must have performed work between March 20, 2022, and April 22, 2022, and remain employed as a practicing nurse on September 1, 2022.

### *Employee & Labour Relations*

The OPSEU collective agreement for the period of April 1, 2022, to March 31, 2025, was ratified by OPSEU on July 22, 2022, and approved by the Board of Health. Meetings with the Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) Negotiations Committee were held on September 7, 8, 14 and 16, 2022. In addition, a Joint OPSEU/ONA/Management Committee meeting was held on September 12, 2022.

### *Occupational Health & Safety*

As increased COVID-19 cases and outbreaks were reported, physical distancing and masking requirements resumed internally on August 3, 2022. The COVID-19 Workplace Safety Plan continues to be updated outlining various internal protective measures to consider when doing certain activities. Remote work options, active screening of clients, and the use of additional personal protective equipment based on personal risk assessment continues.

Crisis Intervention training is being provided to nurses in Sexual Health/Clinical Information and administrative staff in Sexual Health and Vaccine Preventable Diseases in response to an increase in client aggression and Code White (Violent Behaviour) situations. Training is delivered by the [Safe Management Group](#) who currently provides this training to roughly 250 organizations across Ontario in a variety of sectors. The training teaches management of risks, relationships, behaviours, and aggression, as well as physical self-protection skills and techniques (how to avoid getting hit, get out of holds, etc.).

Staff immunizations for the bivalent COVID-19 and influenza vaccines is forthcoming, as is work to address and improve internal mental health.

To address the current demand in Occupational Health & Safety, a casual Occupational Health & Safety Advisor has been hired along with a posting for a temporary public health nurse until the end of December 2022.

### *Professional Development*

In October, four internal staff members will be trained as certified Basic Life Support/CPR instructors for Health Unit staff instead of using an outside training provider. Having internal instructors provides for better alignment with our Code Pink/Code Blue (pediatric/adult medical) emergency response protocols and other internal practices, in addition to increased cost savings and ongoing skill development for staff.

### *Staffing*

Human Resources continues to schedule casual nurses, COVax Assistants and COVID-19 Clinic Assistants to work at COVID-19 immunization clinics across the district.

The following temporary positions were recently filled. These vacancies were created as a result of backfilling employees assigned to temporary job assignments, some of which are related to COVID-19, an internal transfer, leaves of absences, and to assist with workload:

- Senior Public Health Nurse, Vaccine Preventable Diseases (1.00 FTE) from July 4, 2022, to December 30, 2022
- Public Health Nurse, Sexual Health and Clinical Information (Casual) effective July 11, 2022
- Public Health Nurse, Sexual Health and Clinical Information (0.40 FTE) from July 18, 2022, to December 30, 2022
- Assistant Program Manager, Healthy Families (1.00 FTE) from August 2, 2022, to December 30, 2022
- Management Administrative Assistant, Human Resources (1.00 FTE) from August 25, 2022, to December 30, 2022
- (2) Public Health Inspectors, Environmental Health (1.00 FTE) from August 29, 2022, to December 30, 2022
- Community Health Promoter, Healthy Living (1.00 FTE) from September 1, 2022, to September 8, 2023
- Public Health Nurse, Vaccine Preventable Diseases (0.60 FTE) from September 13, 2022, to December 16, 2022
- Occupational Health & Safety Advisor, Human Resources (Casual) effective September 19, 2022
- Public Health Nurse, Vaccine Preventable Diseases (1.00 FTE) from September 26, 2022, to March 1, 2024

The following permanent positions were recently filled. These vacancies were created because of a retirement, resignations, internal transfers and new funding:

- (2) Community Health Promoters, Healthy Schools (1.00 FTE) effective June 29, 2022
- Epidemiologist, Planning and Evaluation (1.00 FTE) effective August 2, 2022
- Program Manager, Sexual Health and Clinical Information (1.00 FTE) effective September 19, 2022
- Bilingual Program Administrative Assistant, Oral Health and Vision Screening (1.00 FTE) effective October 3, 2022
- Public Health Nurse, Sexual Health and Clinical Information (0.80 FTE) effective date to be determined
- Public Health Nurse, Healthy Families (1.00 FTE) effective date to be determined

The recruitment of the following permanent and temporary positions is currently under way:

- Bilingual Public Health Nurse, Vaccine Preventable Diseases (1.00 FTE)
- Community Health Promoter, Healthy Schools (1.00 FTE)
- Public Health Nurse, Healthy Families (0.80 FTE)
- Public Health Nurse, Healthy Families with coverage in Sexual Health (0.80 FTE)
- Public Health Nurse, Sexual Health and Clinical Information (1.00 FTE)
- Public Health Nurse - Occupational Health & Safety, Human Resources (1.00 FTE)

We continue our efforts to recruit a temporary Certified Dental Assistant Level II, Oral Health and Vision Screening, and a temporary Public Health Inspector, Environmental Health.

There has been a net increase of a 1.0 FTE permanent position of Bilingual Program Administrative Assistant. This is a new position created with 100% funding related to the Ontario Seniors Dental Care Program (OSDCP).

*Approved by*

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