

Board of Health Meeting Summary

November 14, 2012

Peterborough County-City
HEALTH UNIT
...because health matters!

Day in the Life – Public Health Dentist

Dr. Ljiliana Dikanovic-Jokic described her role as a dentist in the Health Unit's [Community Dental Health Centre](#) in downtown Peterborough. Since the clinics opened in May 2011, hundreds of clients have received both preventative and treatment services. The downtown clinic is open six days per week and has handled more than 1,700 appointments so far this year. Many clients haven't seen a dentist in five to ten years when they come for treatment and assume visiting a dental clinic will be expensive and a painful experience. Once dental staff explain that they may be eligible for government programs to offset dental costs and learn how their pain can be managed, clients benefit immensely and comment how much they appreciate how respected they are by clinic staff.

Q3 2012 Program Report

Larry Stinson, Director of Public Health Programs, presented an overview of Health Unit program activities for the third quarter. He noted that the Health Unit is compliant with the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) in most program areas. As projected at the outset of the year, the Health Unit is partially compliant with 13 OPHS requirements where there is limited capacity due to chronic underfunding and staff reductions.

Q3 2012 Financial Report

Brent Woodford, Director of Corporate Services, reported on the Health Unit's financial position for the third quarter. All program areas are on track according to the 2012 budget for this point in the year.

Falls Across the Lifespan

Hallie Atter, Manager of Community Health Programs, provided an overview of Health Unit activities that address the [prevention of falls across the lifespan](#). Falls are one of the leading causes of preventable injury in Ontario and injuries due to falls are the costliest category within the Ontario healthcare system. Locally there was an average of 5,404 emergency room visits each year between 2003 and 2010 due to falls, a rate that is 30% higher than the provincial average. The Health Unit is working with local and regional partners to develop a comprehensive approach to reduce falls that considers risk factors organized into six categories: physiological, social demographic, medical, pharmacological, environmental and behavioural. Current activities focus on older adults both at the individual and population levels. These include surveillance, skill-building, developing partnerships, and several activities to improve the built environment such as safer homes resources, changes to the building code and advancing municipal alcohol policies. Next steps include looking at youth-focused falls prevention initiatives.

Community Dental Health Centres: Short Term Evaluation Highlights

Sarah Tanner, Supervisor of Dental Services, presented the results of a recent evaluation of the [Community Dental Health Centres](#) located in Peterborough Square Mall and the mobile dental clinic that travels through the County of Peterborough. Patient visits have risen 75% from Q1 to Q3 in 2012. Among our regularly scheduled appointments, in October 2012 alone the clinic provided care to 14 people who walked in with urgent dental needs and there were 59 emergency appointments booked. Of the 142 people who participated in the evaluation, 14% said that not seen a dentist in the last 10 years, and 10% had never seen a dentist. All of them (100%) said they would recommend the clinics to others. Respondents stated the welcoming and

knowledgeable staff contributed greatly to their positive experience. In response to growing demand for dental services, in September, the clinic began scheduling two dentists to work on Saturdays.

2013 Cost-Shared Public Health Budget

Brent Woodford, Director of Corporate Services presented the cost-shared budgets which are those funded by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) as well as City, County and First Nations, but does not include other programs and services of the Health Unit that are 100% funded by the MOHLTC or by other provincial ministries. The 2013 cost-shared budget in the amount of \$7,225,542 represents an increase of \$140,215 over the final provincial approved 2012 budget of \$7,085,327. This is an overall 1.98% budget cost increase to the funding partners, and budget details are available on page 150 in the online [board meeting package](#) posted on the Health Unit's website www.pcchu.ca. The Board approved the 2013 cost-shared budget.

Genetics Program Update

The Genetics Program will be transferring to the Peterborough Regional Health Centre effective January 1, 2013. There are a number of benefits to this transfer. Most of the provincial genetics programs are delivered by hospitals, not boards of health, and genetics is a clinical service which fits best within a medical context, with the appropriate visibility and integration with outpatient services.

2013-2017 Strategic Plan Activities

David Watton, Chair of the Governance Committee noted that a number of community and stakeholder consultations regarding the [Board of Health's 2013-17 Strategic Plan](#) had taken place in October and November both in the City and County of Peterborough. Additional focus groups are planned for Curve Lake and Hiawatha First Nations, Health Unit staff as well as two sessions dedicated for local youth. The online community survey has been submitted by 63 residents so far and will be extended until November 30, 2012. All local residents are encouraged to have their say about public health priorities for the next five years by completing the survey which can be found on the Health Unit's website www.pcchu.ca or by clicking [here](#).

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 4:45 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Peterborough County Court House located at [470 Water Street, Peterborough](#).

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Rosana Pellizzari
Medical Officer of Health

Deputy Mayor Andy Sharpe
Chair, Board of Health

Please contact Brittany Cadence, Communications Supervisor, with any questions at bcadence@pcchu.ca or (705) 743-1000, ext. 391.