

**Board of Health for
Peterborough Public Health
Special Meeting
AGENDA**

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 – 2:30 p.m.

Dr. J.K. Edwards Board Room, 3rd Floor, Peterborough Public Health

1. Call to Order & Land Acknowledgement

Example: We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the Treaty 20 and traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishnaabeg. We offer our gratitude to the First Nations for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.

2. Confirmation of the Agenda

3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

4. Consent Items to be Considered Separately (nil)

5. Delegations and Presentations (nil)

6. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting (nil)

Minutes from the previous meetings will be brought forward to the next regular meeting for approval.

7. Business Arising From the Minutes (nil)

8. Staff Reports

8.1. Health Unit Merger Approval

- Cover Report
- a. Merger Approval - Board Chair Letter

9. Consent Items (nil)

10. In Camera to Discuss Confidential Matters (nil)

11. Motions for Open Session (nil)

12. Date, Time, and Place of the Next Meeting

Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 5:30 p.m.
Peterborough Public Health

13. Adjournment

**PETERBOROUGH PUBLIC HEALTH
BOARD OF HEALTH**

TITLE:	Health Unit Merger Approval
DATE:	December 4, 2024
PREPARED BY:	Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health & CEO
APPROVED BY:	Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health & CEO

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

WHEREAS, the Board of Health has received the Public Health Funding and Accountability Agreement from the Ministry of Health that will provide a combined total of \$10,129,450 in funding for fiscal year 2024-2025 to Peterborough Public Health and Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU).

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health included assurances that the government commits to 100% provincial funding support for this merger, and in principle, also provide commitment for eligible out-year merger costs, subject to regulatory changes and appropriate financial reporting.

WHEREAS, the Ministry of Health has articulated it is their intention that there are no fiscal impacts to municipalities and First Nations as a result of the merger.

WHEREAS, the merger intends to strengthen public health delivery, and the Ministry of Health has articulated that operational efficiencies are intended to support public health service delivery;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Health for Peterborough Public Health:

- Intends to pursue a merger with the Board of Health for HKPRDHU, as outlined in the proposed provincial regulatory amendments to Reg 553 and Reg 559 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act; and,
- Provide notice to the Minister of Health, Municipal and First Nations Councils to inform them of this intention.

BACKGROUND

The Boards of Health for Peterborough Public Health (PPH) and the Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit (HKPRDHU) have been engaged in merger exploration discussions since late 2023.

A Joint Merger Steering Committee (JMISC) was established to oversee this process, and to provide ongoing planning and governance decisions associated with the proposed merger. PPH members on the JMISC include the Board Chair Councillor Lachica, Councillor Kathryn Wilson and Deputy Mayor Ron Black.

A business case was submitted to the Province on April 2, 2024, and since that date, there has been ongoing communication between Ministry staff and both organizations to further refine those details in anticipation of Ministerial approval.

Written approval was received on Monday, December 2, 2024 (att. A), followed by a [provincial news release](#) issued shortly thereafter. The amount reflected in the attached letter (transition and stabilization \$4,190,600 plus capital \$30,650) represents the portion of merger one-time funding allocated to PPH. The combined merger funding, submitted as a collaborative business case with HKPRDHU for the new entity, for the fiscal year April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, is \$10,129,450. This funding is both to carry out the merger, and to strengthen public health by supporting resources to catch up on activities (stabilization) to meet our mandated programs and services.

This information was subsequently shared with the JMSC, which met on Tuesday, December 3, 2024. At that meeting, the proposed recommendation included within this cover report was reviewed.

Final approval of the merger rests with each Board of Health.

ATTACHMENTS

- a. [Merger Approval - Board Chair Letter](#)

Ministry of Health

Office of the Deputy Premier
and Minister of Health

777 Bay Street, 5th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1N3
Telephone: 416 327-4300
www.ontario.ca/health

Ministère de la Santé

Bureau du vice-premier ministre
et du ministre de la Santé

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December 2, 2024

e-Approve-72-2024-734

Councillor Joy Lachica
Chair, Board of Health
Peterborough County-City Health Unit
185 King Street
Peterborough ON K9J 2R8

Dear Councillor Lachica:

I am pleased to advise you that the Ministry of Health (the “Ministry”) will provide the Board of Health for the Peterborough County-City Health Unit up to \$4,190,600 in one-time funding for the 2024-25 funding year to support transition and stabilization costs, and up to \$30,650 in capital one-time funding for the 2024-25 funding year, to support the voluntary merger of your organization.

These investments support the proposed voluntary merger of the Peterborough County-City Health Unit and the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and the government’s commitment to provide 100% provincial funding support for this merger, and in principle, also provide commitment for eligible out-year merger costs, subject to regulatory changes and appropriate financial reporting. Voluntary mergers are a critical part of the work that the Ministry has initiated to strengthen the public health sector and it is our intention that there are no fiscal impacts to municipalities as a result of the merger. This work is a priority for our government and aligns with overall Ministry plans to optimize our health care system and improve health care outcomes by connecting Ontarians to faster and more convenient care.

The Ministry expects merging Boards of Health to apply any operational efficiencies, including any anticipated efficiencies realized through a reduction of full-time equivalent positions, to frontline operations/direct service delivery of your organization.

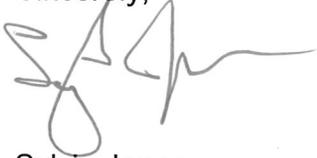
The Executive Lead of the Office of Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Division will write to the Peterborough County-City Health Unit shortly concerning the terms and conditions governing the funding.

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Councillor Joy Lachica

Thank you for the important service that your public health unit provides to Ontarians, and your ongoing dedication and commitment to addressing the public health needs of Ontarians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Jones', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sylvia Jones
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

c: Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health, Peterborough County-City Health Unit
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Deputy Minister
Elizabeth Walker, Executive Lead, Office of Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health
Catherine Wang, Assistant Deputy Minister, Hospitals and Capital Division