

MIDDLESEX-LONDON BOARD OF HEALTH

REPORT NO. 78-24

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health
FROM: Dr. Joanne Kearon, Associate Medical Officer of Health
DATE: 2024 November 21

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH ACTIVITY REPORT FOR OCTOBER

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Health receive Report No. 78-24 re: “Acting Medical Officer of Health Activity Report for October” for information.

The following report highlights the activities of the Acting Medical Officer of Health for the period of October 4 – November 7, 2024. It is noted that the Acting Medical Officer of Health resumed their duties as Associate Medical Officer of Health on October 28.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health provides oversight of all public health programs at the Middlesex-London Health Unit and co-chairs the Senior Leadership Team. The Acting Medical Officer of Health participates in a wide range of external and internal meetings, along with liaising with community partners and municipal and provincial stakeholders.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health, along with other team members, continues to host a weekly Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU) Staff Town Hall.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health also participated in the following meetings:

Public Health Excellence– *These meeting(s) reflect the Acting MOH’s work regarding public health threats and issues; population health measures; the use of health status data; evidence-informed decision making; and the delivery of mandated and locally needed public health services as measured by accountability indicators*

- October 21** Attended a meeting regarding translation of the Notice of Collection for the Middlesex-London Health Unit.
- October 23** Chaired the Monthly Surveillance Committee meeting.
- October 29** Participated in a meeting with Public Health Ontario and the Ministry of Health related to tuberculosis cases.

October 30 Met with managers within the Environmental Health, Infectious Disease, and Clinical Service division to review their third quarter performance reporting as part of quarterly performance management.

November 1 Attended a meeting to discuss a medical directive for Tuberculosis Skin Testing.

Community Engagement, Partner Relations, and System Leadership – *These meeting(s) reflect the Acting MOH's representation of the Health Unit in the community and engagement with local, provincial and national stakeholders both in health and community arenas, along with engagements with local media.*

October 4 Interview with Alessio Donnini, CBC News London, regarding the Legionella outbreak.

Interview with Eric Dougan, 6X News Fanshawe, regarding the Legionella outbreak.

Interview with Jack Moulton, London Free Press, regarding the Legionella outbreak.

October 7 With Emily Williams, CEO, met with Minister Rob Flack to discuss Ontario's Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence.

Attended the meeting of the Community Drug and Alcohol Committee, co-chaired by Scott Courtice, London Inter-Community Health Centre and Jennifer Proulx, Director, Middlesex-London Health Unit.

October 8 Participated in a meeting, facilitated by the Public Health Agency of Canada, regarding a Canadian Wastewater Survey.

Interview with Mike Stubb, 980 CFPL, regarding the 2024-25 COVID-19 vaccine.

Interview with Larry Cornies, London Free Press, regarding outbreaks in long-term care homes.

October 9 Met with Mayor Josh Morgan regarding the opioid crisis.

Interview with Norman Debono, London Free Press, regarding the start of the 2024-25 respiratory season.

Interview with Bienvenu Senga, Radio-Canada, regarding the Legionella outbreak.

October 10 Participated in the monthly meeting with representatives from local First Nations Health Centres.

October 11 Interview with Alessio Donnini, CBC News London, regarding the Legionella outbreak.

- October 16** Presented the Health Care Provider webinar.
- Attended a meeting of the Tuberculosis Medical Surveillance Working Group, facilitated by the Ministry of Health.
- October 17** Attended the Middlesex County Emergency Exercise located in Kerwood, facilitated by Middlesex County.
- October 21** Attended a meeting of the Community Advisory Committee and Project Team for the London Health Sciences Centre Harm Reduction Strategy.
- With Emily Williams, CEO, and Cynthia Bos, Associate Director, Human Resources and Labour Relations, attended a meeting with union partners the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA).
- With Emily Williams, CEO, and Cynthia Bos, Associate Director, Human Resources and Labour Relations, attended a meeting with union partners the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE).
- October 22** Attended a meeting to discuss memoranda of understanding with First Nations Health Centre partners.
- October 28** With Emily Williams, CEO, and Stephanie Egelton, Executive Assistant to the Board of Health, met with MPP Peggy Sattler regarding the Ministry of Children, Community, and Social Services Grant.
- October 29** Presented a guest lecture to the London-Middlesex Primary Care Alliance regarding the 2024/2025 respiratory vaccines.
- November 1** With representation from the Middlesex-London Health Unit and Southwestern Public Health, met with representation from the London District Catholic School Board regarding the *Immunization of School Pupils Act*.

Employee Engagement and Teaching – *These meeting(s) reflect on how the Acting MOH creates a positive work environment, engages with employees, and supports employee education, leadership development, mentorship, graduate student teaching, medical students or resident teaching activities.*

- October 4** Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.
- October 7** Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.
- October 9** Attended the Public Health Ontario Rounds webinar: "National Surveillance of Neisseria gonorrhoeae AMR in Canada."
- October 10** Participated in the Be Well Escape Room as part of Canadian Healthy Workplace Month activities.
- October 11** Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.

- October 16** Attended the Environmental Health, Infectious Disease, and Clinical Service Divisional Leadership Team meeting.
- October 18** Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.
Presented a guest lecture on Environmental Noise and Radiation.
- October 28** With Emily Williams, CEO, and Alexander Summers, Medical Officer of Health, held open office hours for staff to ask questions in person regarding the 2025 budget.
Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.
- October 29** With Emily Williams, CEO, and Alexander Summers, Medical Officer of Health, held open office hours for staff to ask questions in person regarding the 2025 budget.
- October 30** Attended the Public Health Ontario Rounds webinar: “Congenital Rubella Prevention and the ‘Paradoxical Effect.’”
- October 31** Attended the Public Health Ontario Rounds webinar: “AI Technologies in Public Health Part 2.”
- November 1** Met with the medical student completing a rotation with MLHU.

Organizational Excellence – *These meeting(s) reflect on how the Acting MOH is ensuring the optimal performance of the organization, including prudent management of human and financial resources, effective business processes, responsive risk management and good governance.*

- October 7** Participated in a meeting to discuss Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub quarterly reporting.
- October 10** With Emily Williams, CEO and Jennifer Proulx, Director, Family and Community Health, met to discuss a Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services grant application.
- October 16** Attended a meeting with the Senior Leadership Team to discuss finance-related matters.
- October 17** Attended the October Board of Health meeting.
- October 18** Attended a meeting with the Senior Leadership Team to discuss finance-related matters.
- October 22** Attended the monthly touch base meeting with the Board of Health Chair.
- October 23** Participated in a meeting to plan the Board of Health orientation occurring in November.

- October 23-25** With appropriate senior leaders, attended meetings with impacted teams and individuals regarding the 2025 budget and related organizational and operational changes.
- October 25** Chaired a meeting regarding the development of an organizational Data Governance Policy.
- With Emily Williams, CEO, and Sarah Maaten, Director, Public Health Foundations, attended a meeting to discuss an approach for coordinating the roll out of organizational initiatives and projects to meet internal capacity.
- October 30** With Sarah Maaten, Director, Public Health Foundations, and Pat Harford, Manager, Information Technology, participated in a meeting to discuss an approach to the use of artificial intelligence at the Middlesex-London Health Unit.

This report was prepared by the Associate Medical Officer of Health.



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Associate Medical Officer of Health

This report refers to the following principle(s) set out in Policy G-490, Appendix A:

- The Good Governance and Management Practices Domain as outlined in the [Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability](#).

This topic has been reviewed to be in alignment with goals under the Middlesex-London Health Unit's [Anti-Black Racism Plan](#) and [Taking Action for Reconciliation](#), specifically the Governance and Leadership (ABRP) section.