



MINUTES

Timiskaming Health Unit Board of Health

Regular Meeting held on December 4, 2024 at 6:30 PM

Microsoft Teams

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Board of Health Members

Stacy Wight	Chair, Municipal Appointee of Kirkland Lake
Curtis Arthur	Vice-Chair, Provincial Appointee
Jeff Laferriere	Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shores
Casey Owens	Municipal Appointee for Town of Kirkland Lake
Brian Bockus	Municipal Appointee for Township of Chamberlain, Charlton, Evanturel, Hilliard, Dack & Town of Englehart
Mark Wilson	Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shores
Steve McIntyre	Municipal Appointee for Township of Armstrong, Hudson, James, Kerns & Matachewan
Todd Steis	Provincial Appointee
Cathy Dwyer	Provincial Appointee
Paul Kelly	Municipal Appointee for Township of Larder Lake, McGarry & Gauthier
David Lowe	Provincial Appointee
Guy Godmaire	Municipal Representative for Township of Brethour, Harris, Harley & Casey, Village of Thornloe
Carol Lowery	Municipal Appointee for Town of Cobalt, Town of Latchford, Municipality of Temagami, and Township of Coleman

Regrets

(Vacant) Vice-Chair, Municipal Appointee for Temiskaming Shore

Timiskaming Health Unit Staff Members

Dr. Glenn Corneil	Acting Medical Officer of Health/CEO
Randy Winters	Director of Corporate and Protection Services
Erin Cowan	Director of Strategic Services and Health Promotion
Rachelle Cote	Executive Assistant

Chair Wight opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION #57R-2024

Moved by: Paul Kelly

Seconded by: Jeff Laferriere

Be it resolved that the Board of Health adopts the agenda for its regular meeting held on December 4, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION #58R-2024

Moved by: Todd Steis

Seconded by: David Lowe

Be it resolved that the Board of Health approves the minutes of its regular meeting held on November 6, 2024, as presented.

CARRIED

5. **REPORTS OF MOH/CEO**

Dr. Corneil provided a summary of the local situation and other related updates:

- COVID, flu and RSV cases are increasing and will likely continue to rise over the holiday season. Many children are sick with pneumonia infections. Communications was sent to healthcare providers for awareness.
- Sexual Transmitted Infections are also increasing.

6. **IN-CAMERA**

MOTION #59R-2024

Moved by: Casey Owens

Seconded by: Jeff Laferriere

Be it resolved that the Board of Health agrees to move in-camera at 6:39 pm to discuss the following matters under section 239 (2):

- THU-PHU Liabilities and Assets
- Ministry Funding Approval Summaries

7. **RISE AND REPORT**

MOTION #60R-2024

Moved by: Brian Bockus

Seconded by: Paul Kelly

Be it resolved that the Board of Health agrees to rise with report at 6:55 pm:

- Timiskaming Ministry Letter – Merger One-Time Funding

8. NEW BUSINESS**a. PHU-THU Merger Update****i. Minutes-Nov 5/2024: BOH Merger Working Group**

Distributed for information.

ii. BOH Merger Working Group Next Steps

Timiskaming will have 5 municipal seats on the new Board of Health for NEPH. Some municipalities are experiencing some challenges in meeting the appointment deadline. Hoping to get all the nominees shortly. Reminded of the importance to get quorum for the first meeting on January 1, 2025.

iii. NEPH MOH Appointment Recommendation**MOTION #61R-2024**

Moved by: Steve McIntyre

Seconded by: David Lowe

WHEREAS section 62 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act R.S.O. 1990, c. H.7 requires every board of health to appoint a full-time Medical Officer of Health; and

WHEREAS section 64 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act requires that the Minister approve proposed Medical Officer of Health appointments; and

WHEREAS the voluntary merger between the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit has now received formal approval from the Ministry to merge to form the Northeastern Health Unit (operating as Northeastern Public Health) effective January 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit concurs with the recommendation of the Board of Health Merger Working Group to endorse the appointment of Dr. Lianne Catton as the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer for the Northeastern Health Unit (operating as Northeastern Public Health); and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit recommends the appointment of Dr. Lianne Catton as Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer for Northeastern Health Unit; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit share this recommendation with the Ontario Minister of Health in a joint letter with the Board of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit, and the Board of Health for the Northeastern Health Unit.

iv. **Final Merger Approval**

MOTION #62R-2024

Moved by: Casey Owens

Seconded by: Paul Kelly

WHEREAS the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have long recognized the opportunity to strengthen local public health across the combined region through a voluntary merger with funding from the Ministry of Health and direction from the Boards of Health to move forward exploring this since 2020; and,

WHEREAS the Boards of Health for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit each passed a resolution in March 2024 agreeing to voluntarily merge to strengthen public health across their combined region, subject to the following conditions:

- a. The Government approves the intended merger; and,
- b. The Government commits to providing adequate and appropriate funding to the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit to support the intended merger, including transition costs and business continuity funding; and,
- c. The Board of Health is satisfied that all necessary conditions for a successful merger to strengthen public health have been met; and,

WHEREAS the MOH/CEOs for the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit have undertaken a process of collaboration, negotiation, and joint engagement, along with the Porcupine Health Unit and the Timiskaming Health Unit Boards of Health and senior management teams to ensure the successful implementation of the merger to strengthen public health; and,

WHEREAS the Porcupine Health Unit and Timiskaming Health Unit have received government and Ministry of Health approvals along with adequate and appropriate funding to support the merger as well as articulation that there will be no fiscal impacts to municipalities as a result of the merger; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for the Timiskaming Health Unit approves the voluntary merger with the Porcupine Health Unit to form the Board of Health for the Northeastern Health Unit;

FURTHERMORE, that the Board of Health authorize the MOH/CEO to forward a copy of this resolution to the Minister of Health;

AND FURTHER, that this motion be shared with all member municipalities, ALPHa and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION #63R-2024

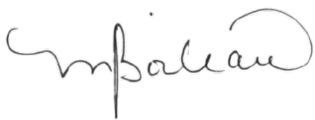
Moved by: Steve McIntyre

Seconded by: Curt Arthur

Be it resolved that the Board of Health agrees to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:19 pm.

CARRIED

Stacy Wight, Board Chair
Rachelle Cote, Recorder



January 30, 2025

Michelle Boileau, Board Chair
Northeastern Health Unit