

THUNDER BAY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

December 14, 2005

1:30 pm – BOARDROOM

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

C. Bryson, Chair
D. Bell
R. Buitenhuis
G. Garbutt
M. Harding
L. Kloosterhuis
G. Nelson
C. Teichroeb
C. Trottier
J. Virdiramo

Regrets:

V. Catalan
N. Gale

Absent:

I. Angus

Administration Present:

Dr. P. Sutcliffe, A/Medical Officer of Health (T/C)
D. Heath, A/Chief Executive Officer
K. Allan, Director, Health Protection and Clinical Services
G. Daniels, A/Business Administrative Officer
E. DePeuter, A/Director, Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention

1. Meeting Called to Order – 1:30 pm

2. Attendance and Announcements

- Regrets were received from V. Catalan and N. Gale; C. Teichroeb advised that she would be delayed due to road conditions.
- ALPHA's Semi-annual Meeting is scheduled for February 2 & 3, 2006 in Toronto; registration is required by January 13. Those interested in attending were invited to contact B. McClain to complete the "Request to Attend Conference" form.

Executive Assistant if they do not wish their personal or business e-mail to be provided to alPHa for this purpose.

C. Bryson, M. Harding and J. Virdiramo provided verbal reports on the conference. M. Harding was elected to the Executive of the alPHa Board of Health Section. Overall, the Conference was found to be beneficial and informative although alPHa sessions required additional time for thorough discussion of topics. It was observed that Thunder Bay DHU compares favourably with other health units in its involvement in a number of initiatives. Dr. Sutcliffe provided information on the "Determinants of Public Health" Workshop.

7.2 Report on CRC Focus Group Meeting

G. Garbutt, M. Harding and I. Angus participated in the Focus Group on November 25, 2005. G. Garbutt and M. Harding noted that it was an open and inviting session. It was stressed with the facilitator that the North needs to be listened to, and it does not want solutions made in southern Ontario for Northern issues.

8. Standing Reports

8.1 Divisional Reports

8.1.1 Health Protection and Clinical Services

K. Allan, Director, presented the monthly Divisional report. It was noted that the Health Unit is pursuing the "Baby Friendly" designation. The assessors were recently on-site, and the process will continue into the New Year. It was noted that pharmacies were also providing flu shots in the community. The number of flu shots given appears to have been maintained throughout the community through the Health Unit and other flu shot providers.

8.1.2 Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention

E. DePeuter, A/Director, presented the Divisional report with special attention on the Preventive Dentistry Program. It was noted that Thunder Bay has the 2nd highest rate of dental disease in children 4-5 years of age. The dental program will report to the Board of Health in the New Year regarding initiatives to address the dental health of children in the District. Bill Campbell, Manager of Healthy Families, provided details on CINOT (Children in Need of Treatment) noting that some dentists will not accept clients of this program as treatment is funded through the Program to only 60%. It was noted that the Injury Prevention Program, including Substance Abuse Prevention, was transferred to the new Ministry of Health Promotion as of November 24, 2005. The Northwestern TCAN (Tobacco Control Area Network) held its first meeting on November 9-10, 2005 at the

9. New Business

9.1 Physical Punishment

E. DePeuter introduced Tara Gauld, Health Promotion Planner, and Silva Swaula, Education Officer with the Children's Aid Society to present the report on "Advocating for Positive Parenting and the Elimination of Physical Punishment of Children". A slide presentation highlighting the key points of the initiatives to endorse the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth, and to advocate for the repeal of Section 43 of the Criminal Code was reviewed. With the approval of the Board, the resolutions were amended to add that the resolutions be forwarded to all member municipalities for endorsement.

Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth

Moved by: G. Nelson

Seconded by: J. Virdiramo

WHEREAS the Thunder Bay District Board of Health believes that it is a community's responsibility to ensure the healthy development of its children;

WHEREAS Public Health has a goal in the Child Health Mandatory Core Program to increase the percentage of children and youth who meet physical, cognitive, communicative and psychosocial development milestones; and

WHEREAS studies indicate the utilization of physical punishment is still widely used and may have serious consequences for children; and

WHEREAS Public Health has a role in conjunction with other community agencies to educate potential and actual caregivers of children about the potential negative consequences of physical punishment and methods of positive discipline; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) and the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) have resolved to endorse the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth (September 2004); and

WHEREAS the national Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth (September 2004) sets out a clear position against the use of physical punishment based on a review of the most recent literature;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thunder Bay District Board of Health endorse the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth (September 2004);

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thunder Bay District Health Unit write a letter encouraging other organizations in Thunder Bay and District that work with children to endorse the Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth (September 2004);

AND FURTHER THAT copies of this resolution be sent to all local Members of Parliament, local Members of Provincial Parliament, all provincial health units, and District organizations that work with children, and all Member Municipalities for support.

CARRIED

Repeal of Section 43 of the Criminal Code

Moved by: J. Virdiramo Seconded by: G. Nelson

WHEREAS the Thunder Bay District Board of Health believes that it is a community's responsibility to ensure the healthy development of its children;

WHEREAS Public Health has a goal in the Child Health Mandatory Core Program to increase the percentage of children and youth who meet physical, cognitive, communicative and psychosocial development milestones; and

*WHEREAS studies indicate the utilization of physical punishment is still widely used
and may have serious consequences for children; and*

WHEREAS Public Health has a role in conjunction with other community agencies to educate potential and actual caregivers of children about the potential negative consequences of physical punishment and methods of positive discipline; and

WHEREAS Section 43 of the Criminal Code justifies the use of physical punishment of children between the ages of 2 and 12; and

WHEREAS Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) is implementing an advocacy strategy for Repeal of Section 43;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Thunder Bay District Board of Health support the repeal of Section 43 of the Criminal Code and write to the Minister of Justice indicating the Thunder Bay District Health Unit's position;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to all provincial health units, local Members of Parliament, local Members

of Provincial Parliament, and District organizations that work with children, and all Member Municipalities for support.

CARRIED

9.2 In-camera Session

Moved by: G. Nelson

Seconded by: L. Kloosterhuis

THAT the Board of Health move to In-camera session to consider Personnel Matters.

CARRIED

In-camera items were dealt with in their entirety.

Moved by: G. Nelson

Seconded by: M. Harding

THAT the Board of Health move out of In-camera session to resume regular business.

Moved by: G. Nelson

Seconded by: M. Harding

THAT the Board of Health approve the extension of the contract with the Sudbury & District Health Unit on a month-by-month basis for the provision of Medical Officer of Health coverage by Dr. Penny Sutcliffe and Dr. Vera Etches per the coverage terms outlined in the letter dated December 12, 2005 from Dr. P. Sutcliffe.

CARRIED

10. Other Business

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 pm

12. Date of Next Meeting: January 17, 2006