

What your levy buys

OUR VISION

Healthy lives together.

OUR MISSION

We improve, promote, and protect the health and well-being of the population in the District of Thunder Bay by delivering high-quality public health programs and services with our partners.

OUR MANDATE

The mandate of the Thunder Bay District Health Unit is legislated under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

The primary focus of public health is the health and well-being of the whole population through the promotion and protection of health and the prevention of illness. Minimum requirements for the delivery of public health programming are set out in the Ontario Public Health Standards.

OUR 2023 BUDGET

The consolidated budget for public health services provided by the Health Unit within the District of Thunder Bay totals approximately \$20.22M. Of this total, 77% is funded by the Province of Ontario, approximately 17% or \$3.48M is funded through the municipal levy and 6% is derived from fees, charges and other sources.

Please see other side for a brief overview of services.

2023 REVENUE SOURCES



Provincial Funding	■	77%
Municipal Contribution	■	17%
Fees, Charges & Other Sources	■	6%

2023 EXPENDITURES

In 2023, each municipal taxpayer in the district will contribute \$29.57 towards the total cost of the services listed below.

Services Provided	(000s)
Healthy Growth and Development	\$ 5,742
Infectious Disease	5,553
Chronic Disease and Injury	5,250
Environmental Health	2,169
Corporate	1,294
Land Development	205
Emergency Preparedness	9
Total Consolidated Budget	\$ 20,221
Total Municipal Contribution	\$ 3,475
Per Capita Municipal Contribution	\$ 29.57

What your levy buys

Health promotion, protection and disease prevention are complex and extensive and are made up of the following program areas:

HEALTHY GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING:

- The Children's Oral Health Program provides oral health promotion, education and clinical preventive services for children birth to 17. In school dental screenings help facilitate access to the Healthy Smiles Ontario Program for eligible children with urgent and non-urgent dental needs.
- Healthy Babies Healthy Children program seeks to optimize healthy child development and reduce health inequities for pregnant individuals and families with children from birth to age 6. Services are delivered through home visiting and delivered in person, virtually or by phone.
- Provide lactation services to support, individuals and families in the TBDHU Lactation Clinic, in the community or in their home.
- The Family Health team provides education programs and support to parents before, during and after pregnancy to help them raise healthy, happy and resilient children in safe environments.
- The Children's Visual Health Program provides vision screening to all senior kindergarten children in the District of Thunder Bay. The program assists families to access necessary supports such as optometry services and visual aids. It also provides education and promotion to improve awareness about visual health and the importance of early identification of vision disorders.



CHRONIC DISEASE & INJURY PREVENTION, INCLUDING:

- Chronic disease prevention program works with schools, worksites and community partners to provide health promotion activities and programming, build supportive environments and influence policies to encourage healthy eating, physical activity, healthy growth and development, and UV protection.
- Prevention of injury and substance misuse program works with community partners to influence healthy policies and create supportive environments for health. The program provides activities to address the misuse of alcohol and other substances, road and off-road vehicle safety, prevention of falls across the life span, and mental health promotion.
- Tobacco, vapour and smoke program works with community partners to provide prevention, education, youth engagement, training, cessation, enforcement and policy development activities.

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INFECTIOUS DISEASE, INCLUDING:

- Sexual health program facilitates testing and management of sexually transmitted and blood borne infections (STBBI), and promotion of healthy sexuality.
- Outreach and Harm Reduction services support community capacity in decreasing risks for, and supporting management of, infectious diseases including STBBI.
- Immunization services and clinics, yearly review and maintenance of immunization records for all school pupils and children in childcare, distribution of Publicly Funded vaccines to health care providers, improving vaccine access, promotion and confidence through key stakeholder engagement and responding quickly to emerging community vaccination needs.
- Infectious disease case and contact management, outbreak detection and management for all reportable diseases; infection prevention and control inspections and support and follow up on IPC lapses.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, INCLUDING:

- Food safety services for educating food handlers and inspecting food premises.
- Water safety services for monitoring public and private sources and ensuring water meets high standards for both drinking and recreational use.
- Health hazard prevention and management for inspecting facilities and responding to reports of health hazards in the built and natural environment and for ensuring a 24 hour on-call response to urgent incidents affecting public health.
- Vector borne disease surveillance programs for assessing the risk of infection of West Nile virus and Lyme disease and investigating all potential human exposures to rabies from animal contacts.

LAND DEVELOPMENT program for reviewing all properties that are developed or planned to be serviced with in-ground sewage disposal.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS for ensuring a consistent, effective response to public health emergencies and emergencies with public health impacts.

CORPORATE EXPENDITURES including costs for the governance of the Health Unit, facility maintenance, computer equipment and communication for all Health Unit sites.