THUNDER BAY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

Date: October 21, 2026
Time: 1:00 pm
Location: BOARDROOM - FIRST FLOOR

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Cindy Brand
Ms. Kasey Etreni
Mr. Paul Malashewski
Mr. James McPherson
Mr. Jim Moffat
Ms. Cynthia Olsen
Ms. Donna Peacock
Mr. Don Smith
Ms. Kristine Thompson
Mr. Todd Wheeler

REGRETS:

Ms. Lucy Belanger
Mr. Grant Arnold
Dr. Mark Thibert

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:

Dr. Greg Holzman, Medical Officer of Health (acting) and Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Dan Hrychuk, Director – Corporate Services
Ms. Shannon Robinson, Director – Health Promotion
Ms. Kandace Belanger - Manager - Street Outreach & Harm Reduction
Ms. Carolyn Tait - Manager - Oral Health & District Offices
Ms. Tammy Lee Royer, Administrative Assistant – Health Protection

RECORDER:

Ms. Lila McNeice, Executive Assistant, Secretary to the Board of Health
Ms. Julie Koroscil, Executive Assistant, Secretary to the Board of Health

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. ATTENDANCE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair noted regrets from L. Belanger, G. Arnold, and Dr. Thibert. Also, the Chair welcomed Julie Koroscil, Secretary to the Board currently in training.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda of the October 21, 2026 meeting was presented for approval.

Resolution No. 84-2026

Moved By: J. Moffat
Seconded By: P. Malashewski

THAT the agenda for the Regular Board of Health meeting to be held on October 21, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

5. INFORMATION SESSION

5.1 Oral Health Program Presentation

Ms. Carolyn Tait, Manager of Oral Health, introduced Chantel Steinburg, Health Promotion Planner for the Oral Health program who provided a presentation to the Board and responded to questions and comments.

6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS

6.1 Thunder Bay District Board of Health

The minutes of the September 16, 2026 Board of Health Regular and Closed sessions were presented for approval.

Resolution No. 85-2026

Moved By: P. Malashewski
Seconded By: J. Moffat

THAT the minutes of the Thunder Bay District Board of Health (Regular and Closed Session) meetings held on September 16, 2026, be approved.

CARRIED

6.2 Board of Health Executive Committee

The minutes of the July 29, 2026 Executive Committee meeting were presented for information.

7. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

8. BOARD OF HEALTH (CLOSED SESSION) MEETING

Resolution No. 86a-2026

Moved By: T. Wheeler
Seconded By: P. Malshewski

THAT the Board of Health move into closed session to:

- Receive information relative to negotiations carried on behalf of the Board.
- Address matters relative to an identifiable individual.

CARRIED

At 1:26 p.m., the Board of Health moved into Closed Session, and the following individuals left the meeting:

- Dr. G. Holzman, Acting Medical Officer of Health/CEO
- Mr. Dan Hrychuk, Director – Corporate Services
- Ms. Kandace Belanger - Manager - Street Outreach & Harm Reduction
- Ms. Lila McNeice, Executive Assistant, Secretary to the Board of Health
- Ms. Julie Koroscil, Executive Assistant, Secretary to the Board of Health
- Ms. Tammy Lee Royer, Administrative Assistant – Health Protection

At 1:51 p.m., the above noted individuals returned to the meeting.

8.1 Closed Session Report

The Chair noted that during the closed session, matters related to negotiations carried on behalf of the Board and matters related to an identifiable individual were discussed, and directions were provided to the Board.

9. DECISIONS OF THE BOARD

9.1 Policy & Procedure Reviews

Dr. G. Holzman, Acting MOH/CEO, presented a memorandum containing a resolution relative to the approval of a Board of Health policy and procedure.

Resolution No. 87-2026

Moved By: T. Wheeler
Seconded By: J. Moffat

THAT amendments to the following Board of Health policy and procedure be approved:

- BH-02-04 Remuneration and Expense

AND THAT Administration be authorized to finalize and publish the updated Board of Health policy and procedure.

A motion was made by K. Etreni and seconded by J. Moffat to approve the above resolution with the following amendment:

AND to amend item 4.1 of the policy, Definition of *Eligible Board member,* as directed and remove reference to the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

The resolution, as amended, was CARRIED.

9.2 Bill 121, Save a Life Act

Report 34-2026 was presented by Dr. G. Holzman, containing a resolution relative to naloxone access in public settings. Board members expressed appreciation for the opportunity to support the cause while the details of the bill are worked out.

Resolution No. 88-2026

Moved By: D. Smith
Seconded By: T. Wheeler

THAT with respect to Report No. 34-2026 (Harm Reduction), we recommend that the Board of Health support the objective of increasing the availability and accessibility of naloxone in appropriate public settings as a measure to reduce harms and deaths associated with opioid poisoning;

AND THAT the Board communicate its support for expanded public access to naloxone to the Government of Ontario, while encouraging consideration of appropriate implementation requirements, resources and alignment with existing provincial naloxone programs.

CARRIED

9.3 Healthy Babies Healthy Children Advocacy

Report No. 35-2026 was presented by S. Robinson, Director of Health Protection, relative to Healthy Babies Healthy Children program advocacy.

Resolution No. 89-2026

Moved by: J. Moffat

Seconded by: T. Wheeler

> THAT with respect to Report No. 35-2026 (Healthy Babies Healthy Children), we recommend that a letter be sent to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services requesting that the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) undertake a review of base-funding needs for the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program to ensure this essential program is sufficiently resourced to meet the needs of families and assist children to have a healthy start in life;
>
> AND THAT MCCSS develop a sustainable funding approach that includes predictable annual increases that appropriately account for program requirements, increasing complexity of need, inflationary and salary pressures, and the geographic realities of service delivery in Thunder Bay and District.

CARRIED

9.4 Reserve Fund and Reserve Fund Strategy

Report 36-2026 was presented by D. Hrychuk, Director of Corporate Services, relative to the Reserve Fund and Reserve Fund Strategy, and containing a resolution for approval.

Resolution No. 90-2026

Moved by: D. Smith

Seconded by: J. Moffat

> THAT with respect to Report No. 36-2026 (Finance), we recommend that the Board of Health approve the Reserve and Reserve fund strategy and transfers as presented:
>
> - Any year-end surplus or deficit from the Land Development Program be transferred into or withdrawn from the Land Development Reserve Fund, respectively;

- $20,000 from the Benefit Cost Stabilization reserve fund be designated to the Workplace Health and Wellness initiative over a three-year period of 2027-2029;
- $30,000 from the Program Contingency reserve fund be designated to continue Thunder Bay District Health Unit's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation initiatives over a three-year period of 2027-2029;
- Any year-end municipal surplus be applied to replenish the $10,000 withdrawal from the Program Contingency Reserve Fund for the contribution to the Thunder Bay Drug Strategy Community Partnership;

AND THAT the Director of Corporate Services and Manager of Finance be authorized to complete any related administrative requirements for the Reserve and Reserve Fund strategy.

CARRIED

10. COMMUNICATIONS FOR INFORMATION

10.1 General Insurance Program Renewal

A memorandum was presented by D. Hrychuk, Director of Corporate Services, relative to providing the Board of Health with an update on the general insurance program renewal for the Thunder Bay District Health Unit for 2026-2027.

10.2 Medical Officer of Health (Acting)/CEO Update

A memorandum from the Acting Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer, was presented for information.

11. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, November 12, 2026 at 1:00 PM.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution No. 91-2026

Moved By: D. Smith
Seconded By: C. Brand

THAT the Board of Health meeting held on October 21, 2026, be adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

CARRIED