

Hastings Prince Edward Public Health Board of Health Meeting

Information Items

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Listing of Information Items
Board of Health Meeting – March 1, 2023

1. Timiskaming Health Unit - Letter to Prime Minister Trudeau re Alcohol Health Warning Labels dated February 8, 2023.
2. Association of Local Public Health Agencies - Letter to Premier Doug Ford re Boards of Health - Order in Council Appointments dated February 10, 2023.

The above information items can be found on the Hastings Prince Edward Public Health's website through the link in the Agenda Package or by going to our website at hpePublicHealth.ca.



Services de santé du
TIMISKAMING
Health Unit
Enhancing your health in so many ways.

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February 8, 2023

Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: Letter re: Alcohol Health Warning Labels

On January 25, 2023, at a regular meeting of the Board for the Timiskaming Health Unit, the Board received a [Briefing Note 'Mandatory Labels on Alcohol Containers'](#) and passed the following motion:

Motion (#6R-2023) was passed which included the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Health resolve to Call on the Government of Canada to amend the Food and Drug Act to make mandatory that all alcohol beverage containers have enhanced alcohol labels affixed:

1. Indicating what constitutes a standard drink;
2. Illustrating the number of standard drinks in the beverage container; and
3. Displaying health messages regarding adverse health outcomes, including the cancer risks associated with the consumption of alcohol.

AND FURTHER THAT, the THU Board of Health endorse, in principle, Bill S254 – An Act to Amend the Food and Drug Act (Warning Labels on Alcoholic Beverages) and Motion M-61 A National Warning Label Strategy for Alcoholic Products.

The Timiskaming Health Unit fully supports the above recommendation, and thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stacy Wight, Board of Health Chair

Copy to:

- Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, Minister of Health
- Dr. Theresa Tam, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada
- Dr. Kieran Moore, CMOH

- Chair of the *Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health*
- Hon. Anthony Rota, MP Nipissing Timiskaming
- Hon. Charlie Angus, MP Timmins-James Bay
- Hon. Patrick Brazeau, Senator, Independent
- Hon. Lisa Marie Barron, MP Nanaimo-Ladysmith
- Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
- Ontario Boards of Health
- Canadian Public Health Association
- Timiskaming Drug and Alcohol Strategy

alPHA's members are
the public health units
in Ontario.

alPHA Sections:

Boards of Health
Section

Council of Ontario
Medical Officers of
Health (COMOH)

Affiliate

Organizations:

Association of Ontario
Public Health Business
Administrators

Association of
Public Health
Epidemiologists
in Ontario

Association of
Supervisors of Public
Health Inspectors of
Ontario

Health Promotion
Ontario

Ontario Association of
Public Health Dentistry

Ontario Association of
Public Health Nursing
Leaders

Ontario Dietitians in
Public Health

February 10, 2023

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Bldg Rm 281, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier,

Re: Boards of Health – Order in Council Appointments

On behalf of the Boards of Health Section of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA), we are writing to you with regards to delays in Order-in-Council appointments to local boards of health under Section 49 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.

Ontario's boards of health are at the forefront of the important decisions that are aimed at keeping people healthy throughout the province, and their success depends on stability and consistency within their membership. This is especially important in the immediate aftermath of municipal elections, which already have a significant destabilizing effect every four years.

24 out of 34 Ontario Boards of Health depend on provincial appointees to maintain their necessary complement, and the delays they are already reporting in securing these appointments are having a detrimental effect on their governance and accountability roles, as well as their engagements with their respective public health units, local councils, and community partners.

This is not the first time we have been faced with this issue, which we also raised with you via [correspondence](#) in June of 2020. At that time, several boards reported that their requests for appointments were not responded to, not approved, or approved for only a limited time. The uncertainty, interruption of continuity and simple depletion of the ranks compromised the capacity for sound decision-making on local public health matters in many areas, and we worry that this is being repeated.

We hope that provincial appointments will soon be announced. Should you wish to discuss this issue further, please have your staff contact Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHA at 416-595-0006, x 222 or loretta@alphaweb.org.

Sincerely,



Carmen McGregor,
Chair, Boards of Health Section



Trudy Sachowski,
President, alPHA

COPY: Hon. Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health
Dr. Catherine Zahn, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Siobhan Corr, Manager (Acting), Public Appointments Secretariat