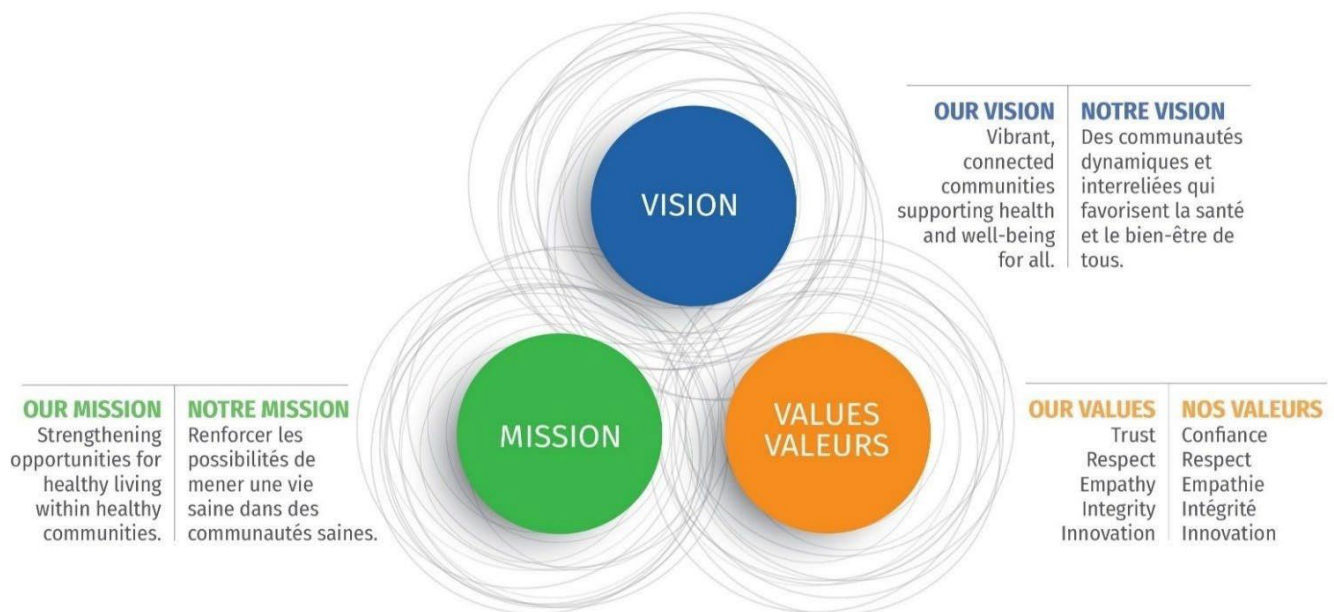


**Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer  
Report to the Board of Health**



**We Are Public Health - Nous sommes la santé publique**  
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Prepared by Dr. Lianne Catton, MOH/CEO  
February 29, 2024 BOH Meeting

# General Report

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## 1. Board of Health (BOH)

### ***Strengthening Public Health***

OPHS Review: The Ministry of Health is working with local public health agencies (LPHAs) to strengthen public health with the review of the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS). To date PHU team members have been engaged to share feedback in several areas including emergency management; the Health Equity standard and the Relationship with Indigenous Communities Guideline; chronic disease prevention and school programs; and the substance use and harm reduction standards and protocols. There are PHU team members on the working groups reviewing infectious diseases and one reviewing immunizations.

Public health funding review: No new updates.

Voluntary Mergers: The PHU-THU merger process continues to evolve and a more substantial update will be shared under that agenda item. Strengthening Public Health Lessons Learned Speaker Series are offered by the Ministry, feature a panel of experts with both practical and theoretical knowledge that focus on governance models and merger legal considerations. These sessions continue to provide valuable information related to merger processes.

## 2. Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Memorandums

### ***Measles Preparedness***

In December 2023, the World Health Organization reported an alarming 30-fold rise in measles cases in Europe. In recent weeks the Pan-American Health Organization has reported detection of imported measles cases in the Americas. Currently there are four active cases of measles in Canada, two of which are in Ontario. Given the dramatic rise in cases globally health system partners in Ontario must be prepared for the continued importation of cases and potential outbreaks. Measles is a very contagious viral infection that spreads through the air when an infected person breathes, coughs, or sneezes. Outbreaks can happen when susceptible individuals, for example individuals who are not up to date with a measles-containing vaccine, travel to and return from countries where measles is circulating.

The PHU issued a notification to Health Care Practitioners advising of increased global measles activity due to travel and low vaccination rates and to prepare for the potential importation of cases and potential outbreaks. A similar Facebook post is planned about immunization before March Break.

### ***Office of the Auditor General (OAGO) of Ontario's Performance Audit***

Performance audit related to Non-Municipal Drinking Water, including small drinking water systems and private well water. The audit is currently in the planning phase, but OAGO will be reaching out to local public health agencies for meetings, interviews, and requests for information to help determine the scope and objectives of the audit.

### **3. Medical Officer of Health Meetings**

#### ***Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH)***

Executive meeting February 9; COMOH Section meeting February 16

#### ***Public Health Leadership Table***

February 21, 2024

#### ***Public Health Ontario***

January 31 Rounds Streptococcal Infections

#### ***Association of Local Public Health Agencies***

alPHa Board Meeting; workshop: Thriving in Change, February 15

Winter Conference, February 16

#### ***Northern MOH Group***

January 24, February 21, Northern MOH and aCMOH February 23

### **Corporate Services**

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#### **1. Human Resources**

##### ***Recruitment***

As of February 12, 2024, there are a total of three open recruitment competitions. All three positions are for Public Health Nurses in branch communities. There are two competitions for two permanent full-time Public Health Nurses in Moosonee, and one for a temporary full-time Public Health Nurse in Hearst.

##### ***Professional Development & Health and Safety***

Efforts continue to prioritize staff development through ongoing training initiatives. Opportunities for professional growth and skill enhancement are being explored to empower employees and foster a culture of continuous learning.

##### ***Policy Review and Refreshment***

Several Human Resources (HR) policies have been reviewed, with a focus on identifying areas for improvement and updating outdated policies. In addition to reviewing HR policies, plans are in place to refresh existing policies to reflect current best practices and align with regulatory requirements. This includes policies related to performance management, employee conduct, and workplace safety. Recognizing the need for clear guidelines during adverse weather conditions, the organization is in the process of developing an inclement weather policy to ensure the safety and well-being of employees while maintaining operational efficiency.

##### ***Labour Relations***

The organization remains committed to fostering positive labour relations through regular communication and collaboration with employee representatives and unions. Open dialogue and mutual respect are key pillars in maintaining productive relationships. As part of the ongoing policy review process, efforts are being made to ensure that HR policies

align with labor agreements and regulatory standards to promote fairness and transparency in the workplace.

## **2. Information Technology (IT) and Records Management**

Bercell Integrated Technologies continues to monitor PHU IT systems 24/7, update IT equipment to protect from cyber attacks and breaches and increase efficient operations as well as support installation and configuration of new hardware. Phishing exercises were completed in December 2023. Of 92 staff, none submitted data and only 1 clicked on the link within the email.

The cybersecurity training report for Q4 in 2023 was received from Watsec in January 2024. The majority of staff completed the following sessions:

1. The Benefits of Password Managers
2. Mobile Security: Securing Mobile Devices
3. BEC Invoice/Urgent Payment Required Scams
4. Physical Office Security

Staff are required to complete the next series of cybersecurity training by April 2024. There are 4 sessions that take approximately 15 to 30 minutes to complete. These training series increase the health unit's staff awareness and knowledge in protecting themselves and the PHU IT system from cyberattacks and breaches.

A total of 16 staff laptops and 16 clinic computers were replaced in December and January of 2023 as well as 2 presentation computers. A total of 91 IT tickets were completed in December 2023 and 127 in January of 2024.

### ***Access to Information Requests***

Clients who want a copy of the health unit record must submit their request in writing. The Porcupine Health Unit complies with relevant privacy legislation to complete the requests received within 30 days. These requests are reported to the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario on an annual basis. In December of 2023 and January of 2024, no requests have been received.

Requests for information from third parties with client consent are received frequently but do not need to be reported to the Information Commissioner of Ontario. Requests are most often received from the Cochrane Temiskaming Resource Centre and the Office of the Children's Lawyer.

### ***Privacy***

Annual reporting to Information and Privacy Commissioner is being done in accordance with requirements.

## **Vaccine Preventable Diseases and COVID-19 Response Program**

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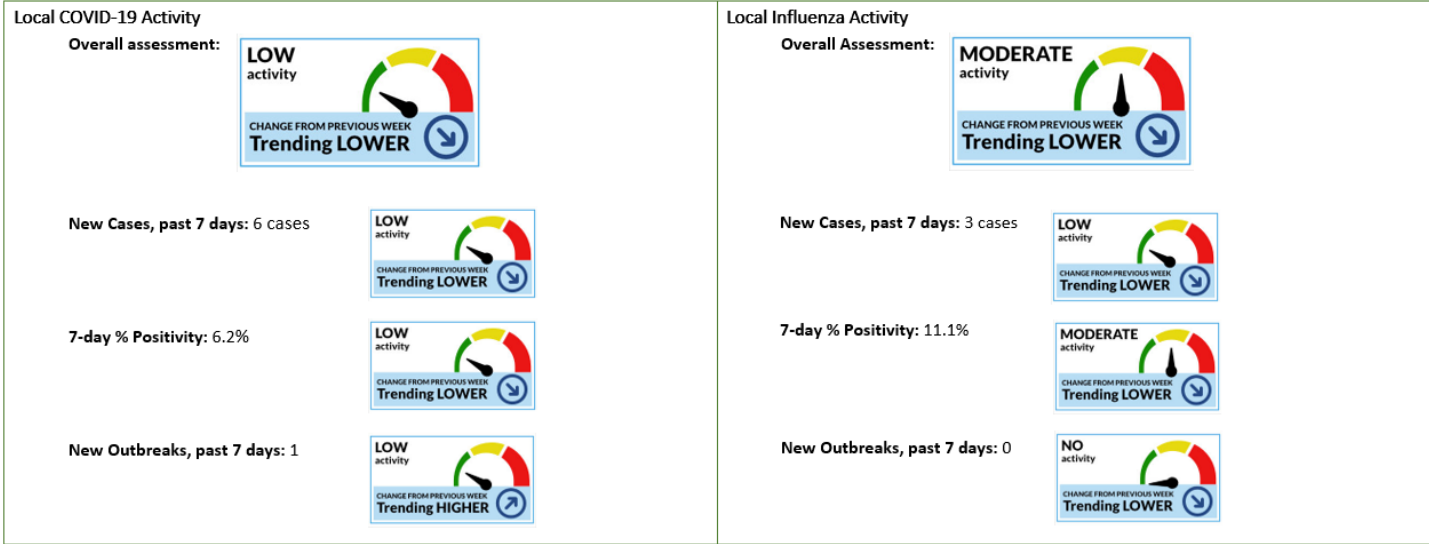
### **1. Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD)**

During the month of January, each branch office offered routine immunization clinics, focusing on the delivery of vaccines to the general population. The total number of clients seen across all branch offices in routine VPD clinics amounts to 130, with a total of 203 vaccines administered.

There were 1186 high school, and 826 elementary school student immunization records pulled/reviewed/mailed out.

## 2. Local COVID-19 and Influenza Activity

### *Integrated Respiratory Surveillance Report (IRSR) – February 11 – 17, 2024*



### **COVID-19**

In week 7, there was a low level of activity, trending lower than the previous week. The 7-day % positivity was 6.2%, indicating a low level of activity and trending lower than the previous week. There was 1 new outbreak, indicating a low level of activity and trending higher than the previous week. Nationally, COVID-19 activity has been stable or decreasing, four provinces and territories reported moderate activity levels.

### **Influenza**

In week 7, there was a moderate level of activity, trending lower than the previous week. The 7-day % positivity was 11.1%, indicating a moderate level of activity, but lower than the previous week. There were no new outbreaks, similar to the previous week.

Nationally, influenza activity has remained similar compared to the previous week. In week 6, the percentage of tests positive for influenza was 11.8% and a total of 3,840 laboratory detections (3,302 influenza A and 538 influenza B) were reported.

From August 27, 2023 to February 10, 2024 (weeks 35 to 6), 3,606 influenza-associated hospitalizations were reported by participating provinces and territories. Adults aged 65 years of age and older accounted for 49% of reported hospitalizations. The highest cumulative hospitalization rates were among adults 65 years of age and older (119/100,000) and children under 5 years of age (72/100,000).

From October 1, 2023 to February 10, 2024 (weeks 40 to 6), 577 influenza-associated pediatric hospitalizations were reported from a total of 2,411 positive influenza tests across eight sentinel hospital sites.

# Health Promotion

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## 1. Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention (CDIP)

### ***Concussions***

The Brain Waves Program has been offered to two additional Grade 5 classes, one each at Pinecrest Public School and Schumacher Public School. This is a result of the collaboration that began in the fall of 2023 with the 3rd Year BScN students at Northern College and the PHU Injury Prevention Team. As shared, the PHU's concussion lead provided "train the trainer" training sessions to the BScN students, to provide them with the skills and knowledge to effectively deliver the interactive Brain Waves concussion program. While this program has been well received, the PHU Injury Prevention Team is planning the implementation of an evaluation process soon.

### ***Healthy Aging***

#### ***Coalition meetings with external partners***

- Healthy Aging: Resource working group, Pre-falls pathway, Indigenous Fall Prevention Network
- Ontario Injury Prevention Practitioners Network
- Injury Prevention Network
- Local concussion coalition
- Ontario Society of Physical Activity Promoters in Public Health Executive
- Cycling committee

#### ***Facebook posts (topics):***

- Concussion blitz
- Mental health and well-being
- Nutrition after a concussion
- Helmet fitting
- Winter sun safety blitz
- Winter sports
- Winter clothing
- Sunscreen

#### ***Community requests***

- Hornepayne office received physical activity request for the Winter fest "Moonlight Walk".
- Branch office nurses hosted meeting with their school principals – good uptake of the concussions programs. Concussion and Brain waves presentations are booked for February. Includes Brain waves in Smooth Rock Falls and Iroquois Falls, Concussions presentation for school staff in Cochrane.
- Hearst office invited to man booth at senior's fair February 9th.
- Healthy aging resources provided to the East End Family Health Team in Timmins, and paramedicine program.

#### ***Presentations***

- Brain waves Timmins, in partnership with Northern College BScN Nursing Program.
- Pinecrest 22 students reached, 6 nurse facilitators.
- Schumacher Public 10 students reached, 5 nurse facilitators.

## Ongoing campaigns

- Heads up! Media release was distributed January 29, 2024, in preparation for hockey awareness event **on** Family Day. *Please see Appendix A: PHU Memorial Game Poster and Appendix B: PHU Media Release Slap Shot Against Concussions.*
- Completed lock box training with 12 HBHC nursing staff in 8 PHU communities. 60 boxes ready for distribution January 3, 2024 to January 3, 2025. Note: Extension required from PHO as 12-month term began October 2023 when approval was provided.
- Provide any extra details regarding launch of a campaign or community engagement:
- Stay on your feet engagement continues – PHU remains in contact with Long-term care homes regarding the implementation of the Tiered Exercise Program and expanding reach to branch office locations who may be better suited. St. Mary’s considering a Spring program as Winter Olympics are currently ongoing at the establishment. A meeting was hosted with WAHA paramedicine in Moosonee to further explore challenges/barriers to implementing the Stand up! Program. Potential Stand up! instructors have been located in Timmins (2), Kapuskasing (2) and Hearst (2), with an upcoming presentation to Northern College’s Health Promotion and Fitness Program. Some members pending approval and hiring by the VON, however it is promising a local training for facilitators will be hosted by the PHU in March 2024. The Stand up! program is currently active in Smooth Rock Falls. Ongoing discussion with the Centre for Effective Practice, stay on your feet coalition and Timmins Family Academic Health Team to implement social prescribing in 2024.

## 2. Healthy Growth and Development

### Staff Training

In February 2024, two Family Home Visitors attended the Community Addiction and Peer Support Association (CAPSA) training session on stigma that was hosted by the PHUs Harm Reduction program. This workshop explored the effects of stigma on individuals, particularly in the context of its impact on the health of people who use substances. The workshop equipped participants with knowledge, and tools to implement approaches to eliminate stigma.

### Community Events/Sessions:

In January 2024, the PHU hosted five parenting information sessions, in partnership with EarlyON, in the following communities: Smooth Rock Falls, Cochrane, Hornepayne, Kapuskasing and Iroquois Falls.

### Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC)

Home Visiting Services

<b>Indicator</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Number of Individuals Screened (Total - Prenatal): HBHC</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Number of Individuals Screened (Total - Postpartum): HBHC</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>548</b>
<b>Number of Individuals Screened (Total - Early Childhood): HBHC</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Number of Individuals Confirmed with Risk (Total): HBHC</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>436</b>
<b>Number of Families Served (Total - with Two or More Home Visits): HBHC</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>67</b>
<b>Number of Individuals who Received an In-Depth Assessment: HBHC</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>66</b>

Source: ISCS Reporting Sub-System. Monitoring Report 5. pulled 2024-02-13.



## Partnerships

In January 2024, the PHU collaborated with Brighter Futures to create a 2024 schedule for parenting sessions in Timmins:

- February 8: Feeding (breastfeeding/intro to solids)
- April 11: Car seat safety
- June 13: Safe Sleep
- August 8: Immunization
- October 10: Childhood Illness
- December 12: Postpartum Care (Baby Blues/PMD support)

## 3. Substance Use and Injury Prevention

### ***Icelandic Prevention Model – Planet Youth Timmins***

Expecting final reports soon, to be shared with school boards and then community partner engagement sessions will be planned.

## Harm Reduction and Opioid Response

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### 1. Harm Reduction Program

#### ***Harm Reduction Team***

In January, the harm reduction program added a registered nurse (RN) to the team. This position is possible by the AIDS Bureau and Hepatitis C Funding Program. The goal of this nursing position is to be able to offer outreach nursing services with a focus on Hepatitis C testing in the Porcupine Health Unit area.

#### ***Alert – Opioid Emergency Response***

In the Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction Guideline (2018), under the Ontario Harm Reduction Program Enhancement piece, the board of health shall implement or support the opioid overdose early warning system. The Porcupine Health Unit, along with key stakeholders, monitor local trends/data to help guide decision making about possible triggers warranting public alerts to be disseminated. For the month of January 2024, no new alerts were issued by the Porcupine Health Unit. Even when not in a state of alert, the Porcupine Health Unit along with partners remain vigilant in communicating risk about tainted supply, safer drug use, naloxone distribution, and access to harm reduction supplies. A yellow alert was issued February 6th and demobilized February 20, 2024, with updated messaging shared extensively. Important updates to messaging and posters are ongoing, *please see Appendix B*.

#### ***Partnership Development***

In January, the harm reduction program continued establishing partnerships with community partners to increase naloxone access points in Timmins and surrounding areas. One additional site in the Timmins area is in the process of becoming a naloxone distribution site, they are in the early stages of the onboarding process.

Naloxone Distribution:

- 472 nasal spray naloxone kits distributed.
- 185 single naloxone nasal spray doses distributed.



In the past month, the Porcupine Health Unit has developed additional partnerships with community partners in various locations of our large geographical area, including the James Bay Coast. In collaboration with partners, the Porcupine Health Unit has established an additional six access points for naloxone distribution. This increases the total number of Naloxone Distribution sites to 40. Of those 40 sites, a select few offer Naloxone distribution at multiple locations.

### ***Opportunities for Interventions***

34 drug information/counselling interactions  
91 safer sex information counselling interactions  
13 referrals

Outreach services offered by the Porcupine Health Unit encompasses street and mobile services offered daily and most often, multiple times per day in the Timmins community. This invaluable service increases access to priority populations. For the month of January 2024, a total of 54.67 hours were spent conducting street and mobile outreach.

Outreach mobile and street services captured 61 interactions for the month of January 2024. This contact with priority populations is key in establishing opportunities for interventions such as providing access to harm reduction supplies, access to Naloxone, and access to practical and social support including health care.

The Porcupine Health Unit's harm reduction clinics (including all branch offices) captured a total of 138 in-person visits, with the bulk of foot traffic being in the Timmins office. Accessing in-person clinic visits are essential in facilitating access to harm reduction supplies including naloxone as well as facilitating referrals for housing, treatment, and testing for bloodborne infection testing.

## **Sexual Health/Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), including HIV and other Blood Borne Infections (BBI)**

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### ***Sexually Transmitted and Bloodborne Infections (STBBI)***

The number of STBBI cases reported from January 1 to January 31, 2024 are comparable to the case counts reported during the same time frame in 2022 and 2023. The analysis indicates that 64.7% of chlamydia cases are amongst females and 60% of cases reside in the Timmins community. The provincial incidence of infectious syphilis has increased dramatically over the last 10 years. In addition, a shift in the at-risk population has been observed in Ontario with a substantial increase in the proportion of cases detected among females (from 5.7% in 2013 to 16.0% in 2022). Even though cases reported within the Porcupine Health Unit area are not amongst the provincially observed at-risk population, the Infectious Diseases team is actively monitoring the situation and prioritizing follow-up of all cases of syphilis among persons capable of becoming pregnant as well as all cases of early congenital syphilis.

### ***Sexual Health Clinic***

A walk-in clinic was offered January 25 in Timmins. The clinic was promoted on Facebook and Instagram. Eight clients were seen during the clinic. The next walk-in clinics are scheduled for February 22 and March 21.

Two Pap clinics were held in January. One clinic took place on January 15 in Timmins and 11 clients were seen. The other clinic was in Cochrane on January 29 and 8 clients were seen.

Planning continued in January for the implementation of self-testing clinics for Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea in Cochrane, Iroquois Falls and Kapuskasing. Social media posts were also created to promote the upcoming clinic. The three clinics

will go live during Sexual Health Awareness week. Kapuskasing had its first clinic on February 12, Iroquois Falls on February 13, and Cochrane on February 14. Other branch offices will be added by Spring 2024.

Plans are underway for the February 2024 launch of online booking for Timmins sexual health nurse-led and Pap clinics. Online booking is currently available for self-testing clinics only.

### ***Health Promotion Activities***

An interactive sexual health presentation was offered at Université de Hearst in Kapuskasing in January. The nurse provided information in French about sexually transmitted and blood borne infections and clinical services available at the PHU sexual health clinic. Condoms and resources were provided.

A sexual health informal presentation to 3 at risk youth at Schumacher Residence was completed in January. Topics discussed were services, consent, relationships, sexually transmitted and blood borne infections and birth control. Condoms and handouts were also distributed.

## **Infectious Diseases**

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### **1. Control of Infectious Diseases (CID)**

#### ***Surveillance and Epidemiological Analysis***

As part of surveillance monitoring, a monthly surveillance report is compiled by the Epidemiologist at the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU). A summary of the analysis of the crude data for cases reported in January 2024, indicates that the Porcupine Health Unit has higher rates of cases per 100,000 than the province and/or other Northern health units for the following diseases:

Diseases	PHU Rate	Other Northern Health Unit Rate*	Ontario Rate
Group A Streptococcal disease, invasive (iGAS)	2.3	2.7	1.3
Tuberculosis Infection	24.0	5.0	2.7
Active tuberculosis disease (TB)	4.6	0.1	0.3
Pneumococcal disease, invasive (IPD)	3.4	1.9	0.8
Chlamydia	19.4	25.3	17.6
Hepatitis C	3.4	3.3	1.0
Syphilis (all types)	3.4	4.1	1.5

\* Algoma Public Health, Timiskaming Health Unit, Public Health Sudbury and District, North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit, Thunder Bay Health Unit, Northwestern Health Unit

#### ***Tuberculosis and Latent Tuberculosis Infections***

Within the Porcupine Health Unit area, from January 1 to January 31, cases of tuberculosis disease and tuberculosis infection are higher than in any other year since 2014.

The analysis for TB disease indicates that slightly more than half of cases were amongst males (54.5%) and ranged in age from 7 to 66 years of age, 75.0% of cases reside in a First Nations community, and 25.0% of cases reside in another community.

### ***Other Diseases of Public Health Significance***

The team continues to share messaging with health care providers, partners and public around local and provincial trends, the prevention and recognition of infectious diseases and specific vaccine reminders.

### ***Safe Needle Handling and Disposal Training***

The IPAC Hub team provided Safe Needle Handling and Disposal training for a local Tribal Council. Some of their staff attended the training on how to minimize their risk of needle stick injuries, how to safely pick up needles, and how to safely dispose of needles.

### ***Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub***

During the COVID-19 pandemic the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU) was selected as one of the province's Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) Hub sites and received funding to formally partner with community-based congregate living settings (CLSs), including long-term care homes, retirement homes, residential settings for adults and children, shelters, and supportive housing, to provide support and resources to CLSs to enhance IPAC practices within their facilities. In 2024, it is the goal of the IPAC Hub to offer more in person training opportunities and engage congregate living settings to help them manage and decrease outbreaks within their facilities. At the same time funding information beyond March 2024 is pending.

### ***Developing Personal Skills***

In January, the IPAC Hub Team provided environmental cleaning education and training to congregate living setting staff. The virtual presentations were offered four times during the month of January and over 33 participants from various communities attended the presentations.

The IPAC Hub Team hosted the IPAC Hub Community of Practice meeting on January 17th. During the meeting, the team discussed Public Health Ontario's new technical brief titled "Interim Infection Prevention and Control Measures Based on Respiratory Virus Transmission Risk in Health Care Settings" and shared Public Health Ontario's new documents on hand hygiene with the group. Twenty-eight people from different congregate settings attended the virtual meeting. A second IPAC Hub Community of Practice meeting held January 31st focused on discussions about vaccination in congregate living settings. Twenty-six participants from different congregate living settings attended the virtual meeting. Information was shared with congregate living settings via e-mail about Public Health Ontario's new coaching series on a Urinary Tract Infection (UTI) program. Outbreak Summary Reports were reviewed to assess what supports the IPAC Hub Team could offer each unique setting that experienced an outbreak in January. The IPAC Hub also attended two outbreak meetings with a Public Health Inspector from the Environmental Health program to provide IPAC support and offer IPAC services to the facilities.

The IPAC Hub Team received four requests from congregate living settings for services and or supports. Congregate living settings requested the IPAC Hub Team visit their facility and provide education to their staff and residents on hand hygiene and environmental cleaning. These visits are planned to be completed during the months of February and March when the IPAC Hub Team completes a Road Show and visits congregate living settings within the Porcupine Health Unit branch office areas.

Invitations to Apitipi Anicinapek Nation Health Center, Mushkegowuk Council, Sagashtawao Healing Lodge, and Wakenagun Youth Healing in the Porcupine Health Unit area have been extended to participate in the IPAC Hub

Community of Practice meetings as their facilities are designated as a congregate living setting.

The IPAC Hub Team provided the Infection Control Practitioner of a local Hospital with information on RSV and hand hygiene and provided them with immunization posters as requested. The IPAC Hub Team reached out to the manager of Moonbeam Retirement Residence as they are under new ownership to offer IPAC support and services. Information was shared by the IPAC Hub Team to long-term care Infection Control Practitioners on LTC-CIP preparation group lecture series that is being offered to ICP's at LTCH's to help them prepare to write their CIP certification.

## **Environmental Health**

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### **1. Health Hazards**

#### ***Healthy Environments***

April 8<sup>th</sup> parts of Southern and Eastern Ontario will experience a total solar eclipse for the first time since 1925. It will begin at 2:04 p.m. and last for about two and a half hours. Although the Porcupine Health Unit region is not within the pathway of totality there remains concern for risks to vision. As such the team attended a preparation information meeting with Ministry partners and local public health partners from across the province and will share safety messaging and recommendations broadly.

## **Knowledge and Strategic Services**

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### **1. Indigenous Engagement**

The Indigenous Engagement Specialist has become a member of the Timmins and District Hospital's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Social Accountability and Anti-Racism (DEISA-A) Committee and the Timmins Indigenous Organizing Committee (TIOC).

### **2. Population Health Assessment and Surveillance**

The epidemiologist completed 1 epi requests for service in December. The epidemiologist continues to provide weekly Integrated Respiratory Surveillance Report and monthly reports on infectious diseases locally and in comparison, to the province.

### **3. Communications**

Since COVID-19, the Porcupine Health Unit's presence on social media channels has increased and promotes health messages and health unit programs and services.

December 2023

A total of 76 Facebook posts (French and English), 22 Instagram posts and 4 Tweets were shared on the health unit's social media channels.

One media release was published to promote public health measures, including vaccines, to protect against respiratory illness season.

January 2024

During the first month of 2024, 121 Facebook posts (French and English), 7 Instagram posts and 3 tweets were shared on the health unit's social media channels.

One media release was published to promote concussion prevention and the Slap Shot Against Concussion event with the Timmins Rock Junior A Hockey Team.

The PHU completed 2 media requests during the months of December and January.

#### **4. Staff Development**

Foundations Team provided staff training in December and January:

- A Guide to Land Acknowledgement
- Key Messages
- Introduction to Health Equity
- Communication Plan

A total of 31 staff attended the sessions.

The Foundations team is supporting program coordinators and managers with their objectives and indicators for Annual Service Plans 2024 that are due on April 2, 2024. Members of the team are also available for staff consultations to support planning, implementation and evaluation of public health programs and services.

In December 2023, the communication specialist completed 6 consultations. The following month, 3 consultations occurred with the communication staff and 5 with the Foundations program coordinator.

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Catton, MD, CCFP-EM, MPH  
Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer