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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Information Report

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From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health  
Report: #2023-INFO-70  
Date: August 25, 2023

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**Subject:**

Durham Region Health Department 2022 Health Check Up!

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**Recommendation:**

Receive for information

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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To provide an update on the Durham Region Health Department (DRHD) [2022 Health Check Up!](#) (HCU), which has been posted on durham.ca.

**2. Background**

2.1 DRHD releases an annual HCU to report on key program achievements and feature program specific stories.

2.2 The 2022 HCU includes:

- a. Key metrics and achievements in DRHD's response to COVID-19, including vaccine administration;
- b. Year-end milestones related to vaccine administration;
- c. Accomplishments made in the COVID-19 response; and
- d. Accomplishments made in regular program areas, including stories that showcase how staff met challenges related to restoration with dedication and a willingness to adapt.

2.3 Financial information for 2022 is currently not included in the HCU and will be updated once it is available.

### **3. 2022 HCU Highlights**

- 3.1 DRHD engaged in many COVID-19 response activities to reduce the spread of illness and protect the health and safety of area residents. DRHD's COVID-19 response activities are described in the 2022 HCU and organized into several topic areas as follows:
- a. Case and contact management
  - b. Communications
  - c. Inspections and investigations
  - d. Outbreak management
  - e. School-focused nurses
  - f. Surveillance
  - g. Paramedic services
- 3.2 In addition to continuing COVID-19 response activities, DRHD transitioned from operating only high-priority regular programs and services to working towards restoring regular programs and services throughout 2022. Achievements in all restored and regular programs and services are described in the Restoration and regular programs and services section of the HCU.

### **4. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- 4.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goal and priority in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 5: Service Excellence: 5.3 Demonstrate commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.

### **5. Conclusion**

- 5.1 In 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic presented unique challenges affecting everyone in many ways. Over 35,600 Durham residents contracted COVID-19. However, 2022 also included the lifting of COVID-19 mandates and restrictions, allowing for the restoration of programs and services across the Region.
- 5.2 By year-end, approximately 80 per cent of Durham's eligible population completed their primary COVID-19 vaccination series, rolling up their sleeves to protect themselves and their community. In addition, almost half of the population aged five and older received a booster dose. Behind this success, the team at DRHD, Regional colleagues, the provincial government, and many partners like Lakeridge Health, local pharmacies, primary care providers, and community groups worked hard to administer over 1.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines into the arms of people in Durham.
- 5.3 DRHD continues efforts to respond to COVID-19, while maintaining and building on regular programs and services.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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