



# Interoffice Memorandum

**Date:** April 5, 2024

**To:** Health & Social Services Committee

**From:** Dr. Robert Kyle

**Subject:** Health Information Update – April 1, 2024

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Health  
Department

Please find attached the latest links to health information from the Health Department and other key sources that you may find of interest. Links may need to be copied and pasted directly in your web browser to open, including the link below.

You may also wish to browse the online Health Department Reference Manual available at [Board of Health Manual](#), which is continually updated.

Boards of health are required to “superintend, provide or ensure the provision of the health programs and services required by the [Health Protection and Promotion] Act and the regulations to the persons who reside in the health unit served by the board” (section 4, clause a, HPPA). In addition, medical officers of health are required to “[report] directly to the board of health on issues relating to public health concerns and to public health programs and services under this or any other Act” (sub-section 67.(1), HPPA).

Accordingly, the Health Information Update is a component of the Health Department’s ‘Accountability Framework’, which also may include program and other reports, Health Plans, Quality Enhancement Plans, Durham Health Check-Ups, business plans and budgets; provincial performance indicators and targets, monitoring, compliance audits and assessments; RDPS certification; and accreditation by Accreditation Canada.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

*“Service Excellence  
for our Communities*

**UPDATES FOR HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**April 1, 2024**

**Health Department Media Releases/Publications**

**[tinyurl.com/ycy32h67](https://tinyurl.com/ycy32h67)**

- Transition to Boostrix & Pentacel Vaccines (Mar 20)

**[tinyurl.com/35kkbapm](https://tinyurl.com/35kkbapm)**

- The Price of Eating Well in Durham Region 2023 (Mar 21)

**[tinyurl.com/fax5p3ca](https://tinyurl.com/fax5p3ca)**

- World TB Day (Mar 22)

**[tinyurl.com/m2f35k7y](https://tinyurl.com/m2f35k7y)**

- Measles Preparedness – Update #2 (Mar 28)

**GOVERNMENT OF CANADA**

**Department of Finance Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/3ekprmhz](https://tinyurl.com/3ekprmhz)**

- Government highlights next step to universal access to free contraceptives (Mar 30)

**Employment and Social Development Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/few8sd7v](https://tinyurl.com/few8sd7v)**

- New federal law helps ensure families will benefit from affordable early learning and child care for generations to come (Mar 20)

**Environment and Climate Change Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/2yapm2j2](https://tinyurl.com/2yapm2j2)**

- Keep the cash, care for the climate: Canada Carbon Rebate being paid next month (Mar 19)

**Health Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/yprc7f6h](https://tinyurl.com/yprc7f6h)**

- Message from the Minister of Health – Poison Prevention Week (Mar 18)

**[tinyurl.com/ye3z97ez](https://tinyurl.com/ye3z97ez)**

- Public Health Notice: Outbreak of Salmonella infections linked to snakes and rodents (Mar 19)

**[tinyurl.com/yn3bxyan](https://tinyurl.com/yn3bxyan)**

- Statement from the Minister of Health on nicotine replacement therapies (Mar 20)

**[tinyurl.com/57ftzhnv](https://tinyurl.com/57ftzhnv)**

- Government of Canada Announces Reimbursements and Deductions under the Canada Health Act (Mar 21)

**[tinyurl.com/3ksurkce](https://tinyurl.com/3ksurkce)**

- Government of Canada Tables Final Report of the Legislative Review of the Cannabis Act (Mar 21)

**[tinyurl.com/4rkuj23u](https://tinyurl.com/4rkuj23u)**

- Cannabis Act legislative review Expert Panel welcomes the tabling of its final report (Mar 21)

**Indigenous Services Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/575kczek](https://tinyurl.com/575kczek)**

- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Indigenous Services Canada Working to Eliminate Tuberculosis in Inuit Nunangat by 2023 (Mar 24)

**Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/2eadub2d](https://tinyurl.com/2eadub2d)**

- Government of Canada appoints interim Chief Statistician (Mar 19)

**Prime Minister's Office**

**[tinyurl.com/48sfd9nf](https://tinyurl.com/48sfd9nf)**

- Statement by the Prime Minister on World Water Day (Mar 22)

**[tinyurl.com/ep27z4uy](https://tinyurl.com/ep27z4uy)**

- A National School Food Program to set kids up for success (Apr 1)

**Public Health Agency of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/2nvhzncd](https://tinyurl.com/2nvhzncd)**

- Government of Canada supports young children and families in official language minority communities across Canada (Mar 21)

**[tinyurl.com/2p9u5kuf](https://tinyurl.com/2p9u5kuf)**

- Public Health Notice: Outbreak of Salmonella infections linked to geckos (Mar 22)

**[tinyurl.com/5d2bwkfk](https://tinyurl.com/5d2bwkfk)**

- Joint Message from the Ministers of Health, Indigenous Services and Northern Affairs – World Tuberculosis Day – March 24, 2024 (Mar 24)

**[tinyurl.com/29a3fwk6](https://tinyurl.com/29a3fwk6)**

- Joint Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Chief Medical Officer of Public Health of Indigenous Services Canada on World Tuberculosis Day (Mar 24)

**[tinyurl.com/y4fzppmw](https://tinyurl.com/y4fzppmw)**

- Government of Canada Supports Projects to Prevent and Address Violence Against 2SLGBTQI+ Youth (Mar 25)

**[tinyurl.com/5x6jt4bw](https://tinyurl.com/5x6jt4bw)**

- Grants to promote healthy living for high school students across Canada (Mar 26)

**[tinyurl.com/zk47x6nh](https://tinyurl.com/zk47x6nh)**

- Statement from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada Update on Measles and Risk to Canadians (Mar 27)

**[tinyurl.com/7bhvyzps](https://tinyurl.com/7bhvyzps)**

- Joint Statement from the Co-Chairs of the Special Advisory Committee on the Epidemic of Opioid Overdoses – Latest National Data on Substance-Related Harms (Mar 27)

**[tinyurl.com/3p9dvpz9](https://tinyurl.com/3p9dvpz9)**

- Statement from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health on the Overdose Crisis (Mar 27)

**[tinyurl.com/3btp2xjf](https://tinyurl.com/3btp2xjf)**

- Message from the Minister of Mental Health and Addictions and Associate Minister of Health – World Bipolar Day (Mar 30)

**Public Services and Procurement Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/y794a6hj](https://tinyurl.com/y794a6hj)**

- Government of Canada invests in laboratories to support science in Canada (Mar 26)

**GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO**

**Ministry of Colleges and Universities**

**[tinyurl.com/3p6fuv5a](https://tinyurl.com/3p6fuv5a)**

- Ontario investing More than \$270 Million To Support New Innovations and Discoveries (Mar 18)

**[tinyurl.com/mus373ej](https://tinyurl.com/mus373ej)**

- Ontario Allocating International Student Applications to Support Labour Market Needs (Mar 27)

**Ministry of Finance**

**[tinyurl.com/ynae278a](https://tinyurl.com/ynae278a)**

- Building a Better Ontario (Mar 26)

**OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

**Breakfast Club of Canada**

**[tinyurl.com/muhubucy](https://tinyurl.com/muhubucy)**

- Breakfast Club of Canada Welcomes the Government of Canada's Investment in a National School Food Program (Apr 1)

**Canadian Cancer Society**

**[tinyurl.com/4yk4hj45](https://tinyurl.com/4yk4hj45)**

- Federal announcement to restrict marketing and sales of nicotine pouches a needed move to protect youth (Mar 21)

**Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health**

**[tinyurl.com/aat2mbpz](https://tinyurl.com/aat2mbpz)**

- CCSMH launches free information website to support people living with dementia (Mar 19)

[tinyurl.com/j3b46us2](https://tinyurl.com/j3b46us2)

- New Canadian Clinical Practice Guidelines to Address Behavioural and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia (Mar 28)

### **Canadian Institute for Health Information**

[tinyurl.com/4tds2jaa](https://tinyurl.com/4tds2jaa)

- Canadians increasingly report poor mental health, cite growing economic concerns as a contributing factor (Mar 21)

### **Canadian institutes of Health Research**

[tinyurl.com/43yapm7x](https://tinyurl.com/43yapm7x)

- Government of Canada invests in research to transform health systems (Mar 26)

[tinyurl.com/5n888x4k](https://tinyurl.com/5n888x4k)

- Government of Canada makes significant investment in the future of applied public health research (Mar 26)

### **Canadian Medical Association**

[tinyurl.com/5b5nkac3](https://tinyurl.com/5b5nkac3)

- CMA seriously concerned about the future of family medicine in Quebec (Mar 20)

### **Heart and Stroke Foundation**

[tinyurl.com/k56699h4](https://tinyurl.com/k56699h4)

- Heart & Stroke lauds federal government's plan to stop nicotine pouches from getting into the hands of Canada's youth (Mar 20)

[tinyurl.com/4w2dh4ph](https://tinyurl.com/4w2dh4ph)

- 2024 Ontario budget proposes funding to reinforce tobacco and vape controls (Mar 26)

### **IC/ES**

[tinyurl.com/4akaju7x](https://tinyurl.com/4akaju7x)

- People experiencing homelessness more likely to develop dementia at younger ages, study finds (Mar 27)

### **Law Commission of Ontario**

[tinyurl.com/s9ywm46f](https://tinyurl.com/s9ywm46f)

- LCO Releases "A New Environmental Bill of Rights for Ontario" Final Report (Mar 18)

### **Nuclear Waste Management Organization**

[tinyurl.com/3u93xknb](https://tinyurl.com/3u93xknb)

- The NWMO's 2023 annual report shows movement towards site selection with meaningful collaboration (Mar 26)

### **Ontario College of Pharmacists**

[tinyurl.com/3rmct32b](https://tinyurl.com/3rmct32b)

- Zero tolerance for business practices that impede pharmacy professionals' ability to deliver effective care (Mar 26)

### **Public Health Ontario**

**[tinyurl.com/bdz936re](https://tinyurl.com/bdz936re)**

- Connections (Mar 19)

### **Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control**

**[tinyurl.com/3b43mm8h](https://tinyurl.com/3b43mm8h)**

- Groups applaud federal plans for decisive actions aimed at limiting flavours, restricting promotion and suspending over-the-counter sales of kid-friendly nicotine pouches (Mar 20)

### **Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario**

**[tinyurl.com/3x8d2fn8](https://tinyurl.com/3x8d2fn8)**

- Spring budget provides much needed expansion of primary care – Urgent investment missing to address the drug toxicity crisis (Mar 26)

### **World Health Organization**

**[tinyurl.com/2kws7a6k](https://tinyurl.com/2kws7a6k)**

- WHO urges investments for the scale up of tuberculosis screening and preventive treatment (Mar 18)

**[tinyurl.com/4wwec5vp](https://tinyurl.com/4wwec5vp)**

- Call from 100+ Pantheon of Global Leaders for Urgent Agreement on Governments to Reach Ambitious & Equitable International Deal to Prepare for and Prevent Future Pandemics (Mar 20)

**[tinyurl.com/cn2ewvhw](https://tinyurl.com/cn2ewvhw)**

- WHO launches CoViNet: a global network for coronaviruses (Mar 27)