



Interoffice Memorandum

Date: February 21, 2025

To: Health & Social Services Committee

From: Dr. Robert Kyle

Subject: Health Information Update – February 17, 2025

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
February 17, 2025

Health Department Media Releases/Publications

tinyurl.com/yc7hs6rk

- Health Department releases report on solar ultraviolet radiation in Durham Region (Feb 6)

tinyurl.com/bde5zy5r

- Consider going alcohol free for Dry February (Feb 14)

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Employment and Social Development Canada

tinyurl.com/4hxavrun

- Helping health care and social service professionals focus on patients, not student loan debt (Feb 14)

Environment and Climate Change Canada

tinyurl.com/3f2x92ss

- Cutting pollution and building a strong economy for the future: Canada's 2035 commitment under the Paris Agreement (Feb 12)

Health Canada

tinyurl.com/477b46jz

- First of their kind Guidelines Provide Recommendations for Treating Mood and Anxiety Disorders in Pregnancy and Postpartum (Feb 12)

tinyurl.com/zf3nsmhp

- Government of Canada Provides \$1.7 million to Improve Access to Sexual and Reproductive Health Services (Feb 13)

tinyurl.com/y3p6bcwa

- Government of Canada takes further action to address fentanyl precursor chemicals (Feb 14)

Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada

tinyurl.com/4ruhnan6

- Government of Canada launches Canadian Genomics Strategy to drive innovation and foster economic growth (Feb 6)

Prime Minister's Office

tinyurl.com/247rz4ay

- Prime Minister announces the appointment of Canada's new Fentanyl Czar (Feb 11)

Public Health Agency of Canada

tinyurl.com/2tth8wju

- Statement from the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health on Addressing the Growing Concern of Syphilis in Canada (Feb 14)

Public Safety Canada

tinyurl.com/yjk44wnb

- Federal, Provincial, and Territorial Ministers meet to discuss border security, fentanyl, and organized crime (Feb 13)

Transport Canada

tinyurl.com/3tppbn4h

- Transport Canada strengthens safety by adding new cameras to school buses (Feb 3)

tinyurl.com/2fnfnj38

- Transport Canada makes vehicle safety recall information more accessible to Canadians (Feb 10)

GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO

Premier's Office

tinyurl.com/nhzd63jw

- Ontario Election to be Held on February 27 (Jan 28)

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Canadian Cancer Society

tinyurl.com/yc4hku3u

- New Canadian Cancer Society survey reveals working-age Canadians fear a cancer diagnosis would rob them of a stable financial future (Feb 4)

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

tinyurl.com/35wurakx

- New Plain Language Toolkit Helps Workplaces to Spell It Out for Safety (Feb 11)

Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction

tinyurl.com/2n979xr5

- Statement: Public health and safety key to addressing fentanyl crisis (Feb 6)

Canadian Ophthalmological Society

tinyurl.com/5h8f589y

- Serious eye disease Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) recognized with official awareness month: Canadian Ophthalmological Society (Feb 4)

Federation of Canadian Municipalities

tinyurl.com/n8r7bx3t

- Canada and FCM Invest \$30 million to build resilient communities (Feb 13)

Heart and Stroke Foundation

tinyurl.com/5y2u27dj

- Heart & Stroke report: More people surviving congenital heart disease and living longer (Feb 4)

tinyurl.com/467rh8rr

- Ontario's Future at Heart (Feb 10)

IC/ES

tinyurl.com/mem2xf7y

- Contribution of cannabis use disorder to new cases of schizophrenia has almost tripled over the past 17 years (Feb 2)

Quebec Coalition for Tobacco Control

tinyurl.com/yvrammvw

- New data shows a third of teenagers vape while time is running out to finalize flavours reg (Feb 12)

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

tinyurl.com/46mdfe6x

- Ontario election: Nurses demand action on the nursing crisis, the erosion of public health care, and the root causes of poor health (Feb 4)

The Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada

tinyurl.com/bdfmde8w

- SOGC Marks Sexual and Reproductive Health Awareness Week: Protecting Women's Rights in Health Care (Feb 10)