

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



Together with our communities, we help people become as healthy as they can be.

Message from the Board of Health Chair and the Medical Officer of Health

The year 2022 marked the third year of our ongoing COVID-19 response. It was also a year of recovery and the resumption of much of the public health work that was put on hold in 2020 when the majority of our staff were redeployed to respond to the biggest public health challenge of the past century.

And while the year presented many challenges as we faced multiple waves of COVID-19 and new variants of concern emerged, there were many achievements to celebrate.

When we transitioned to a long-term COVID-19 vaccination strategy in March, 88 per cent of the adults living in Hastings and Prince Edward Counties (HPEC) had been vaccinated against the virus. This level of protection has been critical in helping reduce severe COVID-19 related illness in our region. These efforts were achievable only because of the outstanding work of our dedicated staff, the collaboration and support of our community partners and the commitment of local residents who continued to follow public health guidance and get vaccinated.

Unfortunately, the pandemic magnified existing health inequities in our community, and there has been a measurable increase in substance use and factors that contribute to chronic disease. The pandemic also had a negative impact on mental health. If unaddressed, these shifts will put further demands on health resources in the future. The work of public health is essential to protecting the health of the population and preventing disease and injury before it occurs, and is critical to the long-term sustainability of our health care system.

The Board of Health (BOH) continues to advocate for the resources needed to support public health as it works to protect the health of our residents. In 2022, the BOH:

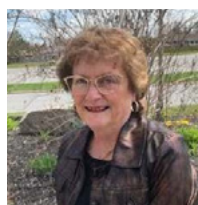
- ➔ advocated to the Ontario Ministry of Health for more funding to support public health's oral health program as a component of a comprehensive oral health strategy;
- ➔ continued their call for the Ministries of Health and Education, as well as local school boards, to support ongoing funding for HPEPH's school-focused nursing initiative;
- ➔ advocated to the federal and provincial Ministries of Health to increase the minimum provincial purchase age for vaping and tobacco products to 21 years of age (currently 19) under the Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017; and
- ➔ committed to engage with community partners and work together to respond to the drug poisoning crisis in our community and beyond.

We stand committed to our core values of collaboration, advocacy, respect and excellence as we continue our work delivering evidence-based public health programs and services in our community. This Annual Report provides highlights of the work we did in 2022 to support the needs of our residents as we continue to fulfil the requirements of Ontario's Public Health Standards, and meet our commitment of helping our residents become as healthy as they can be.



Ethan Toumishey

Dr. Ethan Toumishey
MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health & CEO
Hastings Prince Edward Public Health



Janet E. O'Neill

Jan O'Neill
Chair, Hastings Prince Edward Board of Health
Mayor, Municipality of Marmora and Lake
County of Hastings

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Financial Statements

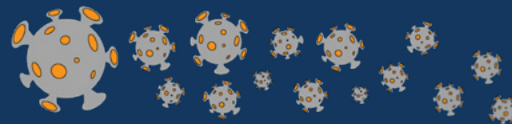
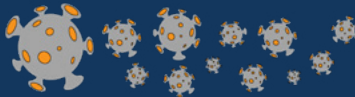
Financial statements for 2022 are reviewed annually by the Board of Health and are available at [hpePublicHealth.ca](https://www.hpepublichealth.ca)

2022 by the Numbers

In 2022, we worked to respond to the pandemic and advance our strategic priorities. We continued to deliver programs and services to ensure our compliance with the Ontario Public Health Standards and help the residents of Hastings and Prince Edward Counties (HPEC) achieve optimal health. This infographic highlights some key statistics from our work.

123,273
COVID-19
VACCINES

administered to residents



9,977 local cases
of COVID-19
managed



51,572
pageviews

of the COVID-19 Dashboard



291
in-person
breastfeeding
consultations

695 visits

completed by HBHC
Public Health Nurses
and Family Home Visitors



76
media
releases
issued



264
inspections

under the
Smoke-Free
Ontario Act,
2017



613
rabies investigations



101
small drinking
water systems
inspections



1,976

food premises
inspections



238

recreational water
inspections

214
smoking
cessation
consultations
by phone



3,833
Naloxone kits

distributed in
conjunction with
community partners



417 cases
of reportable sexually
transmitted infections
followed-up to ensure
treatment and contact
notification



10,025
routine
immunizations
administered
by HPEPH staff



137 clients

received
smoking cessation
counselling by
phone with nicotine
replacement
therapy support



38 IPAC
consultations
with schools

9 Healthy Schools
Newsletters distributed



3,276 school
oral health screenings
completed at 33 schools

2,509 appointments for
seniors at HPEPH clinics and other
dental partners under the Ontario
Seniors Dental Care Program



HASTINGS PRINCE EDWARD
Public Health

hpePublicHealth.ca | 1-800-267-2803 | 613-966-5500

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Hastings Prince Edward Public Health is situated and provides services on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Huron-Wendat and Haudenosaunee people.