

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

TOBACCO



2,468

tobacco enforcement inspections

VACCINE DISTRIBUTION



293,694

vaccines distributed (including influenza)

HEALTH INSPECTION



3,968

food safety inspections

HEALTHY FAMILIES



2,809

family home visits

CLINICAL SERVICES



1,024

reportable sexually transmitted and blood-borne infections

ORAL HEALTH



16,590

dental screenings at schools

HEALTHY SCHOOLS



14,586

student immunizations

HEALTHY FAMILIES



4,057

post-partum screens



envisioning a
strong & healthy
COMMUNITY

A MESSAGE FROM...



DR. GARY KIRK **CEO & MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

After 25 years of dedicated public service, Dr. Heimann retired as Medical Officer of Health in December 2014. This made 2015 my first year as the Health Unit's Medical Officer of Health. I'm pleased to share some of the positive developments we've achieved.

During the year, many changes were made within our organization in order to enhance our services. The Vaccine Preventable Disease and Comprehensive School Health departments merged together to form the Healthy Schools department. This change allowed us to better serve our school population and deliver more cohesive programming from both the Health Protection and Promotion Divisions. The Healthy Families and the Healthy Babies, Healthy Children departments also merged in order to improve the services we provide to our community partners and clients.

In 2015, we welcomed many new faces to our management team and the Board of Health, including Dr. Wajid Ahmed, who succeeded me as the Associate Medical Officer of Health. Paul Borrelli, Dr. Carlin Miller, Joe Bachetti, Gord Queen and John Scott joined the Board of Health. Additionally, Mark Carrick and Bill Marra re-joined the Board of Health.

Finally, the Board of Health received greater-than-expected funding for many of its programs in 2015. These funds allowed the Health Unit to hire some of the much-needed employees to improve the health and well-being of residents in Windsor and Essex County.

Throughout this annual report you'll read about how different programs are making an impact in our communities. I hope you find it informative.

DR. WAJID AHMED **ASSOCIATE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

In 2015, I was privileged to succeed Dr. Kirk as Associate Medical Officer of Health. I appreciate his support and the support I've received from Health Unit staff and community partners during this transition.

As the Associate Medical Officer of Health focused on health protection, my priority is preventing the transmission of communicable diseases, managing outbreaks and other incidents which threaten the health of the public. In addition, I also focus on ensuring the safety and quality of food, water, air and the general environment.

New areas of public health concerns continue to emerge every day (e.g., Zika virus disease, climate change, blue green algae, etc.) and our health unit is trying to bring innovation in our work to maximize our available resources. Our employees have shown outstanding dedication to public health in Windsor and Essex County and I'm proud of the many accomplishments we achieved this year.

As our community faces emerging challenges and threats to good health and wellness, it's important that we continue to work together to promote healthy choices for our residents. Our programs and services will continue to evolve as we work together to identify and address various public health needs. This important collaboration will continue to support our goal toward creating a strong and healthy community.

ACCOUNTABILITY INDICATORS

Each year, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) reports to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ministry of Children and Youth Services on several key performance indicators. These indicators ensure accountability and transparency to the public. Achievements of the indicator targets are a central part of WECHU's core business. The following table provides a snapshot of WECHU's year-end status for indicators. To view the full list of WECHU accountability indicators, visit our website www.wechu.org.

		TARGET	ACTUAL
1	% high risk food premises inspected once every 4 months while in operation	No Target	99.4%
2	% high-risk Small Drinking Water Systems inspections completed for those that are due for re-inspection	100.0%	100.0%
3	% of suspected rabies exposures reported with investigation initiated within one day of public health unit notification	98.0%	77.4%
4	% of confirmed gonorrhea cases treated according to recommended Ontario treatment guidelines	Baseline	59.4%
5	% of school-aged children who have completed immunizations for hepatitis B	No Target	74.8%
6	Baby Friendly Initiative Status (category)	Advanced	Advanced
7	% of tobacco vendors in compliance with youth access legislation at the time of last inspection	>=90%	90.3%
8	% of tobacco retailers inspected for compliance with display, handling and promotion sections of the SFOA	100.0%	100.0%
9	Oral health assessment and Surveillance: % of all JK, SK, and grade 2 students screened in all publically funded schools	100.0%	100.0%
10	Implementation status of NutriSTEP Preschool Screen	Intermediate	Intermediate



14,586

student immunizations administered



143,151

doses of influenza vaccines distributed

3,968

food safety inspections



14

food safety premise closure orders

464

seasonal housing compliance inspections

1,000

radon test kits distributed for the *Know Your Level* radon awareness campaign

878

rabies investigations

234

women attended breastfeeding clinics



2,809

family home visits as part of the Healthy Families program



The Know Your Level radon awareness campaign was launched in November of 2015. 1,000 free radon test kits were handed out to residents of Windsor and Essex County. The purpose of the campaign was to increase radon awareness for the residents of Windsor and Essex County, inform them of radon mitigation strategies for their homes, and to assess radon levels in the Windsor and Essex County area. A final report will be available by fall 2016.

REMINGTON PARK

In 2015, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit began a preliminary investigation in the Remington Park area of Windsor after concerns of a reported cancer cluster were raised. The investigation began with data collection, focusing on Remington Park residents who were diagnosed with primary lung cancer between the years of 2000 and 2009.

As of December 31, 2015, WECHU concluded the data collection phase of the investigation surrounding the Remington Park Cancer Cluster. The Health Unit has conducted interviews with 50% of the target population (or their next of kin).

MASS SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTION (STI) TESTING

The Health Unit Sexual Health Clinic staff partnered with the University of Windsor and St. Clair College to offer fun, mass STI screening events on each campus in 2015. The goal of the events was to raise awareness and reduce stigma of STI screening. Students were engaged to plan and lead the promotion of the events in a participatory health promotion model. Each student received a free T-shirt for providing a small urine sample for STI testing of chlamydia and gonorrhea.

University of Windsor

"T's 4 Pee" on September 21st
700 people tested

St. Clair College

"Safe is Sexy" on October 15th
539 people tested

**Of 1,239 total individuals tested, 20 positive cases were found.
(1.6% positive rate).**



SMOKE-FREE OUTDOOR SPACES

In 2015, the province introduced new legislation which banned smoking within 20 meters of playgrounds and sport fields, as well as on bar and restaurant patios. Provincial actions like these are often the result of progressive changes at the municipal level and in 2015 Windsor and Essex County set a high bar in this regard. The Town of Lakeshore and Municipality of Leamington updated their municipal bylaws and the Towns of Kingsville and LaSalle passed smoke-free outdoor space bylaws, which are among the most comprehensive smoke-free by-laws in the province. By including a combination of a wide range of products (e.g., e-cigarettes and hookahs), as well as spaces (e.g., parks, beaches, boat ramps, and bus shelters), these by-laws have provided a high level of protection from exposure to second-hand smoke.



1,024

cases of reportable sexually transmitted and blood borne infections



123

tobacco enforcement charges (total)
**includes 47 sales to minors

1,404

children received services through
Children in Need of Treatment (CINOT)



16,590

children received dental screening at
schools in Windsor and Essex County

1,950

children received oral health services
through Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO)

\$866.30

is the average monthly cost of a
Nutritious Food Basket



2015 BOARD OF HEALTH

Mr. Joe Bachetti	County Appointee
Dr. Ken Blanchette	Provincial Appointee
Mr. Paul Borrelli	City Appointee
Mr. Mark Carrick	Provincial Appointee
Ms. Eleanor Groh, <i>Vice-chair</i>	Provincial Appointee
Mr. Bill Marra	City Appointee
Mr. Gary McNamara, <i>Chair</i>	County Appointee
Mr. Richard Meloche	County Appointee
Dr. Carlin Miller	Provincial Appointee
Mr. Rob Modestino, <i>Treasurer</i>	Provincial Appointee
Mr. Hilary Payne	City Appointee
Mr. Gord Queen	County Appointee
Mr. John Scott	Provincial Appointee
Mr. Ed Sleiman	City Appointee
Ms. Michelle Watters	Provincial Appointee





FINANCIAL INFORMATION

General Funding	\$18,191,867
General Funding - one-time	\$216,600
Vector Borne Diseases	\$128,800
Enhanced CINOT	\$180,000
Healthy Babies, Healthy Children	\$2,755,841
Electronic Cigarettes Act	\$55,400
Smoke Free Ontario	\$585,656
Nurse Practitioner	\$139,000
Genetics	\$189,080
Healthy Smiles Ontario - operating	\$603,300
Small Drinking Water Systems	\$13,733
Infection Control	\$461,700
Infection Control Nurse	\$90,100
Enhanced Food Safety	\$53,800
Enhanced Safe Water	\$32,900
Medical Officer of Health Compensation	\$38,000
Needle Exchange Program	\$45,000
Public Health Nurses Initiative	\$180,500
Chief Nursing Officer	\$121,500
Panorama	\$139,100
TOTAL	\$24,221,877

2015 FUNDING SOURCES

Province of Ontario Ministries	\$19,377,841
City of Windsor	\$2,522,673
County of Essex	\$2,125,882
Township of Pelee	\$2,045
Other	\$193,436
TOTAL	\$24,221,877



Financial information is based upon the Accountability Agreement including amendments for 2015 with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and Healthy Babies Healthy Children Prenatal and Post-Partum Nurse Practitioner Services Agreement for 2015 with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.



519-258-2146

www.wechu.org



WINDSOR

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ESSEX

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LEAMINGTON

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