

## BRIEFING NOTE

### Board Orientation Day

April 18, 2019

#### SUMMARY

The Governance and Quality Assurance Committee has identified Wednesday May 1, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM for the Board Orientation Day in Brockville. It will include presentations and generative discussions on the topics below:

- Strategic Plan and Ontario Public Health Standards;
- Accountability Framework;
- Allocation of Resources to Programs;
- Public health funding and financial accountability; and
- Public health data.

All Board members are encouraged to attend. A light lunch will be served, and at 12:30 PM Board members can participate in the Board alpha fitness challenge with a 30 minute walk in the park.

#### BACKGROUND

The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care report “Protecting and Promoting the Health of Ontarians - Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability” outlines requirements for Boards of Health as follows:

##### **Good Governance and Management Practices Domain**

Boards of health are held accountable for executing good governance practices to ensure effective functioning of boards of health and management of public health units.

##### **Objective of Requirements**

The organizational requirements within this domain support the use of recommended best practices in governance and organizational processes. By adhering to these practices, boards of health are able to improve the quality and effectiveness of programs and services, prioritize the allocation of resources, improve efficiency, and strive for resiliency in their organizational culture.

**Requirements #3:** The board of health shall ensure that members are aware of their roles and responsibilities and emerging issues and trends by ensuring the development and implementation of a comprehensive orientation plan for new board members and a continuing education program for board members.

To meet this requirement the Governance and Quality Assurance Committee prepared a survey among Board members to identify interest in:

- An Orientation Day based on the alPHa Orientation Toolkit;
- 30 to 60 minute sessions before Board meetings for interested Board members to learn more about the work of the Health Unit from a management perspective;
- Opportunities to shadow Health Unit employees to learn more about programs and services.

**COMMENT**

Four Board members completed the survey and identified the following topics for the Orientation Day:

- Strategic Plan and Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS)
- Accountability Framework
- Allocation of Resources to Programs
- Public health funding and financial accountability
- Public health data

The Orientation Day will be held on May 1, 2019 from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM at the Health Unit in Brockville. It will include presentations and generative discussions.

The Management Team will review the topics selected for the pre-Board meeting sessions, and will set up a schedule of visits with Health Unit staff. Board members will be able to sign up for one or more of the visits.

Prepared by:

Anne Warren  
Chair, Governance and Quality Assurance Committee  
April 18, 2019