

**Correspondence
June 20, 2024
Board of Health Meeting**

Proposed Phase-Out of Private Well Water Testing

Correspondence dated April 19, 2024 from the Corporation of the Township of The Archipelago regarding a resolution passed by The Township of The Archipelago hereby requesting that the Province reconsider and ultimately decide against the proposed phasing-out of free private drinking water testing services.

Correspondence dated June 4, 2024 from the Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills in support of the motion passed by The Township of Archipelago.

Letter from the Honourable Sylvia Jones Regarding Strengthening Public Health Services

Correspondence dated May 29, 2024 from the Honourable Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health addressed to Mayor Jan O’Neill, Chair, Board of Health for Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit, Wess Garrod, Chair, Board of Health for Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Health Unit, and Peter McKenna, Chair, Board of Health, Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit, thanking them for passing resolutions to proceed with the next phase of the voluntary merger process and for their vision and dedication to improved public health services.

CMOH 2023 Annual Report Balancing Act: *An All-of-Society Approach to Addressing Substance Use and Harms*

Correspondence dated May 28, 2024 from Wess Garrod, KFL&A Board of Health Chair, addressed to the Honourable Doug Ford regarding the CMOH’s 2023 Annual Report acknowledging his leadership on his call for a collective response to address the burden of harms associated with substance use. The KFL&A Board of Health urges the Government of Ontario to adopt the evidence informed all-in society approach to addressing substance use and the associated harms in the 2023 Annual Report beginning most urgently with developing the four provincial strategies outlined by the CMOH aimed at addressing the harms of substance use in Ontario:

1. Reinvigorate the Smoke-Free Ontario Strategy, focusing on populations and regions with high rates of tobacco use.
2. Develop a comprehensive strategy designed to reduce cannabis-related harms, focusing on youth and young adults who have the highest rates of cannabis use.
3. Develop and implement, in collaboration with stakeholders, a comprehensive alcohol strategy designed to reduce alcohol-related harms.
4. Develop and implement, in collaboration with stakeholders, a comprehensive strategy designed to reduce opioid-related harms.

Declaring Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), and Family Violence a Provincial Epidemic

Correspondence dated May 28, 2024 from Wess Garrod, KFL&A Board of Health Chair, addressed to the Honourable Doug Ford regarding a motion passed by the KFL&A Board of Health declaring intimate partner violence an epidemic.

The KFL&A Board of Health urges the Government of Ontario to declare without delay gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and family violence an epidemic that warrants a meaningful and sustained society-wide response; to encourage municipalities to address gender-based violence, intimate partner violence, and family violence through provincially legislated community safety and well-being plans; and to invest in the necessary resources that support a public health approach to addressing violence in Ontario's communities.

Support for Bill C-322 National Framework for a School Food Program Act

Correspondence dated May 28, 2024 from René Lapierre, Chair, Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, addressed to Vivianne Lapointe, Member of Parliament, Sudbury, Marc Serré, Member of Parliament, Nickle Belt, and Carol Hughes Member of Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing regarding support for Bill C-322 National Framework for a School Food Program Act.

A motion was passed by the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts commending the Government of Canada for prioritizing healthy school food in Budget 2024 and for working in partnership with provinces, territories and Indigenous communities throughout Canada and urging local Members of Parliament and other key partners to endorse Bill C-322, National Framework for a School Food Program Act.

Proposed Closure of Kingston Public Health Laboratory

Correspondence dated May 13, 2024 from the Municipality of the Corporation of the Township of Athens, regarding a resolution passed by Council in support of correspondence from the Cataraqui Source Protection Committee opposing the closure of the Kingston Public Health Laboratory.