



BOARD REPORT

Friday, June 27, 2014



Chief Nursing Officer

REPORT TO THE BOARD

Friday, June 27, 2014

This report updates several areas regarding organizational efficiency and effectiveness since the last Chief Nursing Officer report of November 2013. Foremost, our Exemplary Standing as awarded by Accreditation Canada in March 2014 is a significant achievement. It is an endorsement of all the hard work over the past number of years and speaks to the progress the organization has made in efforts to meet Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Organizational Standards as well as the rigorous standards of Accreditation Canada. It is important that we continue to maintain this momentum and continue to improve as an organization. Staff plays an important role in developing and shaping the organization to ensure we meet the highest standards of performance and effectiveness.

Based on Accreditation Canada criteria, the following areas are key to our 2014 -2015 organizational plan.

Planning and Service Design

Develop and implement infrastructure, programs and services to meet the needs of the populations and communities served.

Organizational Planning

- Develop a comprehensive framework to aligning organizational plan with the strategic plan.
- Measure and monitor program results.
- Support ethical decision-making.

Person Centred Care

- Conduct focus group for client input on the Rights and Responsibilities.
- Inform clients of the processes for giving feedback, lodging a complaint.
- Clarify process for addressing complaints and incorporate client input into organizational planning.

Resource Management

Monitor, integrate and implement the appropriate allocation and use of resources.

- Use an evidence-based process to develop a program evaluation tool to guide resource allocation.

- Analyze the impact of resource allocation decisions on quality of care, community needs, work-life culture, staff health, strategic goals and organizational objectives.
- Develop a budget planning process to include staff, partner and community input.

Human Capital

Develop the human resource capacity to deliver safe, high quality services.

- Develop stability by addressing gaps due to vacancies.
- Develop processes for adjusting workloads and clarify expectations.
- Assess staff satisfaction and input into work assignment process.
- Support staff in professional development and adapting to changing roles of public health as health system evolves.

Integrated Quality Management

Using a proactive and systematic process to manage and integrate quality to achieve organizational goals and objectives.

- Apply lean methodology to streamline processes.
- Track and report on Quality Improvement.
- Share and celebrate progress and achievements.

Communication

Communicate effectively at all levels within and external to the organization.

- Continue on the path of improving communications within the organization.
- Conduct follow-up staff surveys to ensure the organization keeps making improvements.

Emergency Preparedness:

Planning for and managing emergencies, disasters or other aspects of public safety.

- Train staff on business continuity plan to continue critical operations during and following a disaster or emergency.

Maureen Handley
Chief Nursing Officer,
Grey Bruce Health Unit

Program Report June 2014



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We work with the Grey Bruce community to protect and promote health.

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CLIENT SERVICES

Healthy Child Development - Integrated Services for Children Information System

Healthy Child Development - Integrated Services for Children Information System (HCD-ISCIS) is a single platform to support the Infant Hearing, Preschool Speech and Language, Blind-Low Vision and Healthy Babies Healthy Children programs. A single province-wide information system is a first step to the development of a shared database for families. The four services will be able to share demographic/family data including contact information, the names/dates of birth of family members and records on what Healthy Child Development programs the family is enrolled.



Information that is currently entered twice for all newborns through Healthy Babies Healthy Children and the Infant Hearing programs will only be entered once. Elimination of this double entry will increase overall data quality. The system integrates and supports delivery of family-centred services across the four programs. Families will not have to repeat information to the various service providers. The consolidated database will improve monitoring, enhance analysis of services and increase the capacity to analyze and measure outcomes.

HEALTHY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Pertussis

As of May 23, there were seven lab confirmed cases of pertussis (whooping cough) from West Hill Secondary School plus one link to a case at OSCVI. Immunization clinics were held at the three secondary schools in Owen Sound to prevent further spread of the disease.

School	Vaccinated with Tetanus/
West Hill Secondary School	231
OSCVI	171
St. Mary's	187
Total	589

Pertussis is highly contagious. People with pertussis usually spread the disease by coughing or sneezing while in close contact with others, who then breathe in the pertussis bacteria. Pertussis is often unrecognized and under reported. It is particularly serious in infants who are at greater risk of complications. Adults are the main source for pertussis infection in infants and children.

Pertussis is included in the primary series of immunizations children receive before starting school, with a booster at 4-6 years of age, and again at 14-16 years of age. Since 2011, all adults 19 to 64 years of age who have never received the tetanus/diphtheria/pertussis vaccine in adolescence are eligible to receive one lifetime dose of the vaccine.

In Grey Bruce, there have been 9 pertussis cases to date in 2014; 3 cases in 2013 and 14 cases in 2012.

Creating the *Bruce Grey Food Charter*

A food charter is a statement of values and principles to guide a community's food policy. The *Bruce Grey Food Charter* is being developed in partnership with the Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force and the Trillium Foundation. Community members are invited to be part of the discussion by sharing their thoughts, issues and concerns around food and agriculture. This will help create a local food charter reflecting a common vision and set of principles. Adoption of the *Bruce Grey Food Charter* by the local municipal councils, organizations and programs will guide food and agriculture decision-making within our community.

To have your opinion heard:

Step 1: Review the draft [Bruce Grey Food Charter](#).

Step 2: Talk about it with family and friends. Consider how you or your organization could support and advance the Charter's values in our community.

Step 3: Participate in the [Food Charter Survey](#).

Step 4: Endorse it.

Lead Exposure and Recreational Shooting

Lead is a toxic heavy metal. Exposure can cause a range of adverse neurological and developmental effects, particularly for infants and young children. Since the phase-out of leaded gasoline in the 1990s, lead levels in the population have dropped substantially. However, people may still be exposed from old lead-containing paint, drinking water flowing through lead pipes and other sources. A recent joint investigation with Public Health Ontario identified recreational shooting as another source of exposure.

In the spring of 2013, a local physician contacted Public Health regarding a male patient with blood lead levels in excess of ten times the norm for his age. The patient reported that he shoots at an indoor rifle range in Grey Bruce and that other users also had elevated lead levels.

As a result, an investigation of the range was conducted in collaboration with Public Health Ontario and the range operators who expressed concern and were active participants. Using a before and after lead sampling protocol of both air and environmental surfaces, it was demonstrated that shooters and visitors to the range, including children, can be exposed to lead through inhalation and from ingestion after touching contaminated surfaces and then eating or smoking.

Simple control measures were effective to reduce exposure. The range modified ventilation in the shooting area as well as improved the separation of the shooting and common areas. Signs were posted advising participants to wash their hands after shooting.

This shooting range is likely typical of facilities throughout Ontario. With our assistance, Public Health Ontario is developing an information bulletin to all Ontario health units. The bulletin advises of potential lead exposure for recreational shooters and offers investigative and remedial action. A presentation of this investigation was made to the Ontario Public Health Convention (TOPHC) in April. This information will also be shared with all rifle and handgun ranges in Grey Bruce.



ENFORCEMENT / RESEARCH / SURVEILLANCE

Emergency Preparedness

The new Grey Bruce Health Unit Emergency Response Plan was presented to the Board of Health in April along with an outline of the new structure. The plan was re-worked as an “all hazards plan” to comply with Incident Management System principles. Changes include incorporating the Pandemic Plan, which had been a separate document; it was also updated to reflect the new Provincial Pandemic Plan. Two further sections were added. The Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA) section gives an overview of the HIRA process. The Business Continuity section, addressing the ability of the Health Unit to maintain critical functions during an emergency, was added on the advice of Accreditation Canada.

In the period since it was presented, the plan has undergone minor updates to finalise the look and formatting. It has replaced the old plan in the Emergency Operation Centre, in the emergency response go-bags and on the Intranet. The final phase of introduction will be training. Manager training and will take place in the fall of 2014 and a staff training package will be developed for deployment in 2015.

Grey Bruce Health Unit Emergency Response Plan



Emergency Preparedness Manager
Grey Bruce Health Unit
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Vision:

The Poverty Task Force will reduce and eliminate poverty in our community.

Purpose:

The Poverty Task Force facilitates community partnerships to advocate for poverty reduction and elimination.

Membership is free!

Please contact us for more information



Join the Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force

The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force focuses on building partnerships with key community stakeholders and networks; working together to eliminate poverty, and enhancing our common understanding of poverty issues through solution-based research, knowledge development and information sharing.

Join one of our **Action Groups** to delve deeper in to poverty elimination efforts around specific sectors: Housing, Income Security, Food Security and Transportation.

This is Your Charter!

Learn more about the role of a food charter in our community and find helpful links on the Grey Bruce Health Unit's website. Visit <http://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/> to let us know what you think of the Bruce Grey Food Charter.

CONNECT

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DRAFT

Bruce Grey

FOOD

CHARTER



*A guiding document to assist
in the development of
policies and programs to
promote a healthy food system
in Grey and Bruce Counties.*

The Charter acknowledges the right for all to food security.

Presented by the Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force

**This Food Charter represents the collective vision of residents in
Grey County, Bruce County, Cape Croker, and Saugeen Ojibway First Nations
for a just and sustainable local food system.**



In acknowledgment of the basic right to food security, the Charter is a commitment to work together to build a vibrant, sustainable, food secure community. Based on community participation a sustainable local food system will prioritize **health, social justice, education, economic development, the environment, and culture.**

Because we value **Health**, we support...

- ◇ Public policy that recognizes food's contribution to physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional well-being.
- ◇ Making food readily accessible for our rural and urban residents, including neighbourhoods that encourage walkable and bikeable access to healthy food.
- ◇ Strategies to prevent and manage chronic diseases through access to affordable, healthy, safe, adequate, and culturally appropriate food.

Because we value **Social Justice**, we support...

- ◇ Making sure everyone can access healthy food.
- ◇ A fair wage for the production of food, and a safe and respectful environment for all food workers.
- ◇ Helping to ensure land access for anyone interested in food production.
- ◇ Advocating for income, education, employment, housing and transportation policies and practices that support access to healthy, sustainable food.

Because we value **Culture**, we support...

- ◇ Celebrating and promoting respect for and inclusion of traditional, cultural, and spiritual food diversity.
- ◇ Enhancing the dignity and joy of growing, preparing and eating food.
- ◇ Strengthening links between rural and urban communities.
- ◇ Opportunities for all community members to be included and to make connections through the experience and sharing of food.



Because we value **Education**, we support...

- ◇ Initiatives that develop food literacy.
- ◇ Programs that train current and future farmers, home gardeners, food producers, and others involved in the food value chain.
- ◇ Integrating food literacy and community gardening into school curricula.
- ◇ Developing of community gardens at schools and other public settings.
- ◇ Public education about the connections between our health, the environment, and our food choices.
- ◇ Public awareness of the role of agriculture in our lives.

Because we value **Sustainable Economic Development**, we support

- ◇ Prioritizing production, processing, distribution, and consumption of local food.
- ◇ Promoting our region as a food, agricultural, and culinary destination.
- ◇ Advancing food and agriculture research and implementation of innovative, sustainable alternative food systems.
- ◇ Access to education and services that support the development of local food related programs and businesses.
- ◇ Creating cooperative food systems or clusters that support food related businesses.

Because we value **Environment**, we support...

- ◇ Farming practices that protect the watersheds and wildlife habitat.
- ◇ Growth and encouragement of food production methods that sustain or enhance the natural environment in both rural and urban settings.
- ◇ Development of agriculture and land use policies and practices that support the production of healthy, sustainable food.
- ◇ Adoption of food redistribution, food waste reduction and recycling policies and practices.
- ◇ Practices that recognize the detrimental impact of food transportation and strive to minimize environmental burden.