

**Board of Health Manual**  
**Public Health Sudbury & Districts**  
**Information Sheet**

**Category**

Board of Health Structure & Function

**Section**

Board of Health

**Subject**

Board of Health Mandate

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**Approved By**

Board of Health

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**Information**

The Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA) was proclaimed in July 1984. The HPPA is an important piece of legislation for a board of health, as it prescribes the existence, structures, governance, and functions of boards of health, as well as the activities of medical officers and certain public health functions of the Minister. The Act and its regulations provide the legislative framework for the “organization and delivery of public health programs and services, the prevention of the spread of disease and the promotion and protection of the health of the people of Ontario”. R.S.O. 1990, c.H.7, s.2

There are many different Regulations under the HPPA, including those that govern food safety, swimming pool health and safety, rabies control, school health, board of health composition and control of communicable diseases.

The Health Protection and Promotion Act establishes boards of health and invests in them the duty to provide or ensure the provision of health programs and services to the people who reside within the health unit. The required programs and services include:

- Community Sanitation
- Control of Infectious Diseases and Reportable Diseases
- Health Promotion, Health Protection and Disease and Injury Prevention
- Family Health
- Collection and Analysis of Epidemiological Data

The Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services, and Accountability (2021) and the related Protocols and Guidelines are published as the guidelines for the provision of mandatory health programs and services by the Minister of Health, pursuant to Section 7 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act.

The Ontario Public Health Standards (2021) define responsibilities of boards of health as they pertain to foundational and program standards; accountability and organizational requirements; and transparency and reporting.

In carrying out its mandate, the Board of Health provides a policy framework within which the MOH/CEO defines the health needs of the community and design programs and services to meet these needs. The Board approves all programs and services.

The Board adopts a philosophy and management process that allows it to carry out its mandate in an efficient, effective and economical manner and complement this with a sound organizational structure, which reflects the responsibilities of the component parts.

The primary foci of the Board of Health are planning and policy development, fiscal arrangements and labour relations and accountability and reporting to the Ministry. The Board is not involved in day-to-day management decisions, such as approving vacations, staff training, travel expenses, etc. These day-to-day management decisions are the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer and the Board develops policies to guide the Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer and other senior staff in such decisions.