

Board of Health Manual Public Health Sudbury & Districts Information Sheet

Category

Public Health Standards

Section

Program Standards

Subject

Ontario Public Health Standards, Protocols and Relevant Legislation

Number

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Approved By

Board of Health

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Information

The Ontario Public Health Standardsⁱ establish requirements for fundamental public health programs and services, which include population health assessment and surveillance, health promotion and policy development, disease and injury prevention, and health protection. The Ontario Public Health Standards outline the expectations for boards of health, which are responsible for providing public health programs and services that contribute to the physical, mental, and emotional health and well-being of all Ontarians. Boards of health are responsible for the assessment, planning, delivery, management, and evaluation of a variety of public health programs and services that address multiple health needs, as well as the contexts in which these needs occur.

The following standards are published by the Ministry of Health pursuant to section 7 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act (HPPA)*:

- Foundational Standards
 - Population Health Assessment
 - Health Equity
 - Effective Public Health Practice

- Emergency Management
- Program Standards
 - Chronic Disease Prevention and Well-Being
 - Food Safety
 - Healthy Environments
 - Healthy Growth and Development
 - Immunization
 - Infectious and Communicable Diseases Prevention and Control
 - Safe Water
 - School Health, Oral Health, and Vision
 - Substance Use and Injury Prevention

Note: The Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services is responsible for the administration of Healthy Babies Healthy Children within the Healthy Growth and Development Program Standard.

Boards of health may deliver additional programs and services in response to local needs identified within their communities, as acknowledged in Section 9 of the *HPPA*.

Furthermore, boards of health should bear in mind that in keeping with the French Language Services Act, services in French should be made available to French-speaking Ontarians located in designated areas.

The Protocolsⁱⁱ that accompany the OPHS are program and topic specific documents which provide direction on how boards of health must operationalize specific requirement(s) identified within the OPHS and guidelines.

Boards of health need to be knowledgeable about their duties and responsibilities as specified in other applicable Ontario laws, including but not limited to, *the Building Code Act, the Child Care and Early Years Act, the Employment Standards Act, the Immunization of School Pupils Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Act, the Personal Health Information Protection Act, Healthy Menu Choices Act, 2015, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2017, the Skin Cancer Prevention Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.*

ⁱ Ministry of Health website:

- i. https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/docs/protocols_guidelines/Ontario_Public_Health_Standards_2021.pdf (retrieved August 17, 2022)

ⁱⁱ Ministry of Health website:

- i. https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/protocolsguidelines.aspx#protocols (retrieved August 17, 2022)