



Windsor - Essex County
Health Unit

2004 ANNUAL REPORT



Promoting and Protecting
the Health of our Community

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Essex Office
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www.wehealthunit.org

Welcome



Message from our MOH

Our vision as a Health Unit is the highest level of health in a strong and vibrant community. In 2004 each one of our 192 staff contributed to the achievement of this vision. From our efforts in emergency planning, to our work with workplaces and schools and our interventions in clinics, homes and businesses, we strive to provide quality public health services to help ensure a healthier future for each of our 400,540 residents.

Dr. Allen Helmann,
Medical Officer of Health

Health Inspection Statistics

5748
food premises inspections

749
animal bite investigations

175
adverse water reports

School Health Statistics

4220
Consultations

50
Fairs/Displays

300
Workshops/
presentations

Sexual Health Statistics

997
reportable
STD's

5247
client visits

1010
HIV tests
done

Border Health

As a border community, Windsor-Essex is in a unique position for public health planning. We are part of the 7th largest metropolitan area in North America. Since September 11, we are all aware of the possibility of terrorist acts, whether chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear. Since SARS, we recognize that major disease outbreaks can enter our community from the world around us. Our risk is not an Ontario risk, or even a Canadian risk, but one shared with the United States and specifically with the Detroit metropolitan area.

In February of 2004 the Border Health Initiative was created through funds from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Cooperative Agreement for Public Health Preparedness and Response for Bioterrorism. This one-time funding was established to enable states with international borders to enhance early warning infectious disease surveillance at those crossings.

A program coordinator was hired to conduct a binational needs assessment and to present findings at a conference and through distribution of a report. A Steering Committee, including our Medical Officer of Health met bi-weekly to guide the process to assess

the current state of infectious disease public health preparedness in border areas. Binational representatives from all three Michigan-Ontario border crossings were invited to participate. Throughout the year, over 20 agencies from Michigan and Ontario joined the program.

A two-day conference on September 9 and 10, 2004 in Detroit, Michigan provided presentations on public health structure and current infectious disease surveillance systems in Michigan and Ontario. In addition, the over 120 attendees received information on public health legal issues from both state and federal perspectives.

The Health Unit, through the Medical Officer of Health, also participates in the Region 2 South (Southeast Michigan) Bio-Defense Network. This Group meets monthly to plan for public health emergencies, especially those of a terrorist origin.

The Health Unit area has three Emergency Operations Centres (EOC's): The City of Windsor EOC, The County of Essex EOC, and the Amherstburg EOC. The Medical Officer of Health and senior staff are members of each of the EOC's. The Amherstburg EOC has a special function with responsibility for managing the Fermi II Nuclear Response Plan. In September 2004, the Amherstburg EOC was a part of an international exercise to test the Fermi Nuclear Plan. In 2004, both front line Directors became certified in Emergency Management. The proximity of our neighbour to the North adds another dimension to Public Health planning.



Infectious Disease Statistics

18,000
individuals
receive the
flu vaccine
by a Health
Unit nurse

16
respiratory
outbreaks
in long term
care homes

1584
vaccine
orders from
physician or
health care
agencies

2261
new people
were seen
in the Clinic
by the TB
Nurse

Chronic Disease
11 workplaces
614 participants
24,000 employees

Roll Up Your Sleeves

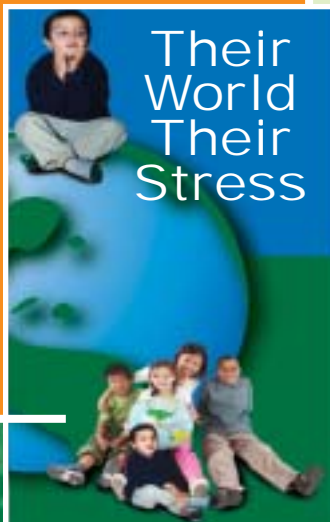
New Publicly Funded Vaccines

During the Spring of 2004 the Ontario government announced a six-month phase in of three new provincially funded vaccines. The new vaccines were added to the routine immunization schedule for Ontario, and the Health Unit updated their vaccine information to reflect the new government guidelines. The vaccines available for free included: varicella vaccine for one-year-old children born on or after September 1, 2003, invasive pneumococcal vaccine for high-risk children 24 to 59 months of age, and invasive meningococcal C vaccine for one-year-old children born on or after September 1, 2003. The funding covers 13 diseases, for over 4,500 children in Windsor and Essex County. Children born after January 1, 2005 will be protected from 12 diseases by the age of two.



As of January 1, 2005, children 12 years of age, and youth 15-19 years old are eligible for meningococcal C-conjugate immunization. In November 2004 the Health Unit began preparing for a meningitis C school immunization program

that was implemented in many area high schools, and elementary schools on February 7, 2005. The new program involves approximately 24,000 Windsor and Essex County students. The goal is to have all students immunized against meningococcal C disease by the time they start high school in September 2008.



WECHU Public Health Nurse weighing baby.

Promoting the Health of Young Families

Throughout 2004, new initiatives in Family Health were implemented to enhance services to families of children, from birth to age 6.

Previously in 2002, only 39% of new families accepted and received a postpartum home visit by a PHN in the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program. The birth of a child creates change and thus a period of adjustment for the family unit. The home visit by a nurse is intended to relieve this stress by providing information and support.

In 2003-2004, some specific strategies were implemented to enhance the uptake of a postpartum home visit. Some of these strategies were: the use of growth measures (weight, length, and head circumference) at the time of the visit; development of a reference manual that families would receive at the visit (BABY: Building Around Baby's First Year. An answer guide with important information for Mom, Baby, and the New Family); and development of the HBHC program pamphlet and postcard; extensive collaboration with community partners to increase awareness and support for the program. As a result of these improvements to service, 52.7% of families received a postpartum home visit in 2004.

Workshops and population-based initiatives were also enhanced during 2004. In an effort to reach parents who have difficulty accessing our regular evening workshops, over 125 condensed workshops were held at Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYCs) and satellites throughout Windsor and Essex County. Presentations varied broadly but included topics such as discipline, safety, picky eaters, toilet learning, growth and development. The OEYCs have also become a key partner in the delivery of population based initiatives such as our "Spirited Child" and "Kids Have Stress Too" campaigns.

The Kids Have Stress Too initiative was funded by a grant from the National Child Benefit Re-Investment. Various strategies were employed to teach parents how to give children the skills they need to cope with stress. These strategies included parenting workshops, development and distribution of print resources, radio ads and interviews, and a facilitator-training workshop for childcare and social service providers.

The Early Child Development initiatives (focusing on Postpartum Mood Disorders and Fall Prevention) continued into their third year with an increased use of radio and television to raise awareness and assist families to address these important issues.

Family Health Statistics

4588 contacts assisted by intake nurse

692 clients that received our prenatal education classes

127 presentations made at Ontario Early Year Centres

ose & Injury Prevention Statistics
winning Healthy Workplace Awards
nts in Bike to Work Contest
oyees in WECHU Workplace Wellness Program

Healthy Babies Healthy Children Statistics

4532
live births
in the health
unit area

3131
families
referred to
HBHC and
community
services

814
pregnant
women who
entered the
HBHC
program

Dental Health Statistics

2331
Parent
Notifications
issued for
children
without
dental
insurance
who have
urgent
dental needs

1121
children
received
topical
fluoride
treatments

2019
necessary
dental
treatments
completed
OW & CINOT
children

Working Toward Wellness at DCCI

An Award Winning Program

For the past 3 years, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit has provided a national wellness program for DaimlerChrysler Canada Inc. (DCCI) and the Canadian Auto Workers Union (CAW). In 2004, the program received national recognition from the National Quality Institute. They were awarded the Canada Awards for Excellence, Healthy Workplace Gold Trophy. This is the highest level of recognition for Healthy Workplace programs in Canada. DCCI and the CAW are the first joint recipients of this award and DCCI is the first manufacturing company to win the award. This places DCCI and the CAW in a very elite group.



Recipients of the Healthy Workplace Gold Trophy.

The Canada Awards for Excellence, Healthy Workplace Award recognizes employers who promote, encourage, support and offer exemplary health-related policies and programs in the workplace. The National Quality Institute (NQI) coordinates the award program. The NQI is a not for profit Canadian organization that provides strategic focus and direction to Canadian organizations that want to achieve excellence in quality and healthy workplace practices.

2004 Funding

Cost Shared Budget	WECHU per capita funding: \$31.50 Provincial avg. per capita funding: \$44.75	
Ontario Ministry of Health	\$ 5 759 556	
City of Windsor	\$ 3 250 173	
County of Essex	\$ 2 504 862	Total
Township of Pelee	\$ 4 521	\$11,519,112
Funded by Ontario Ministry of Health		
HBHC	\$ 2 111 552	
Genetics	\$ 187 080	
Heart Health	\$ 66 560	
Early Child Development	\$ 566 279	
Infection Control	\$ 224 219	Total
West Nile Virus	\$ 498 835	\$3,654,525
Record of Employees' Salaries & Benefits*		
Employee	Salary	Taxable Benefits
Dr. G. Allen Heimann, Medical Officer of Health	\$ 214 555.26	708.12
Deb Bennett, Director of Health Protection	\$ 140 555.43	681.96
Elizabeth Haugh, Director of Health Promotion	\$ 133 887.25	681.96
Sharon Kelly, Director, Finance & Administration	\$ 126 331.91	681.96
Neil MacKenzie, Manager	\$ 120 933.23	449.80
Melanie Gillespie, Manager	\$ 107 838.65	434.80
Dr. Michael Hakem, Dentist	\$ 105 630.00	0
Theresa Marentette, Manager	\$ 102 325.24	434.80
Elizabeth Dulmage, Manager	\$ 101 310.62	434.80

* Provided in accordance with the Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act. Includes pay equity and retroactive adjustments.

Innovation Award of Excellence

Canadian Institute of Child Health (CICH)

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit received the CICH's 2004 Health Promotion and Innovation Award of Excellence for the "Kiss 'n Ride" Program. The award is given for a demonstrated contribution to child and youth health and well being in the community, through formal evaluation, leadership and innovation. The award was presented at the Annual National Child Day "Crayons and Cravats" Gala at the Ottawa Congress Centre on November 10, 2004.

Kiss'n Ride is an injury prevention program initiated in elementary schools to address concerns regarding traffic congestion during morning drop off. From one initial school, the program has expanded to over fifty schools in Windsor and Essex County. The program brings principals, parents, police and traffic engineers together to identify safe drop-off zones at each individual school. Nominations for the award came from enthusiastic parent participants. The award speaks to the success of this program in bringing together the entire school community.



Meet our

Windsor - Essex County Health Unit



Board of Health

Board of Health 2004

- Bill Allsop** - Provincial Representative
- Tom Bain** - County Representative
- Peter Carlesimo** - City Representative
- David Cassivi** - City Representative
- Gaynor Donais** - Provincial Representative
- Percy Dufour** - County Representative
- Debra Hasen** - Provincial Representative
- Lorraine Hodgson** - Provincial Representative
- Wayne Hurst** - County Representative
- Gary McNamara (Chair)** - County Representative
- Caroline Postma** - City Representative
- Ruth Stark** - Provincial Representative
- Tom Wilson** - City Representative

Management Team

Management Team 2005

Tel: (519)
258-2146

- Dr. G. Allen Heimann,** Medical Officer of Health ext. 1402
- Deb Bennett,** Director of Health Protection ext. 1481
- Liz Haugh,** Director of Health Promotion ext. 1233
- Sharon Kelly,** Director of Finance and Administration ext. 1392
- Elizabeth Dulmage,** Manager of Comprehensive School Health ext. 1261
- Melanie Gillespie,** Information Resources ext. 1331
- Deb Gemmell,** Support Services Officer ext. 1404
- Beth Kinnaird-Iler,** Manager of Healthy Babies Healthy Children ext. 1302
- Sue Kocela,** Manager of Child Health, Reproductive Health and Sexual Health ext. 1341
- Line Lauzon,** Manager of Infectious Diseases ext. 1421
- Rob Lyons,** Manager of Health Inspection ext. 1453
- Nancy Smith,** Human Resources Officer ext. 1397
- Neil MacKenzie,** Manager of Chronic Diseases and Injury Prevention ext. 3101
- Theresa Marentette,** Manager of Clinical Services ext. 1202

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