



STAFF REPORT FOR ACTION

The Future of Public Health in Ontario - Opportunities and Risks

Date:	January 11, 2016
To:	Board of Health
From:	Medical Officer of Health
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

The Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care recently released *Patients First: A proposal to strengthen patient-centred health care in Ontario* (December 17, 2015) with the goal of addressing structural issues in the health care system to improve access to care. The discussion paper focuses on population health and integration at the local level and proposes expanding the role of the Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). *Patients First* invites input on the proposals and advice on integrating improvements into the Ontario health care system. Specifically, one of the four proposed changes is to “integrate local population and public health planning with other health services’ and to “formalize linkages between LHINs and public health units”. This report will examine opportunities and risks for public health in the new proposals and make recommendations on how the Board of Health should respond.

CONTACT

Monica Campbell
Director,
Healthy Public Policy
Toronto Public Health
Phone: 416-338-7463
Email: mcampbe2@toronto.ca

Jann Houston
Director,
Strategic Support
Toronto Public Health
Phone: 416-338-2074
Email: jhouston@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Dr. David McKeown
Medical Officer of Health
The Future of Public Health in Ontario - Opportunities and Risks