



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
DATE:	April 14, 2023
SUBJECT:	Health Check Update Bulletin #1 Progress Update (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	

This communication provides the Board of Health with an update on the renewal of the population health assessment report, “Health Check” and informs members of our intent to share status updates with community stakeholders through bulletins.

Background on Health Check- A Population Health Assessment

Boards of health in Ontario are mandated to provide population health information including social determinants of health, health inequities, and other relevant sources to the public, community partners, and other health care providers.¹ To support this effort, Hamilton Public Health Services is updating a key population health assessment report, “Health Check.” This report was last updated in 2018. It is anticipated that the updated report will be publicly released in early 2024, as identified at the January 16, 2023, Board of Health Meeting.²

Approach for Stakeholder Communication

Over fifty stakeholders have been identified that may be interested in the results of this report. Hamilton Public Health Services will keep stakeholders informed of the process

¹ Ministry of Health (2021). Ontario Public Health Standards: Requirements for Programs, Services and Accountability.

https://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/oph_standards/

² Richardson, E., & Sanderson, R. (2023, January 16). Remarks made during presentation of Board of Health Item 8.1 BOH23002. <https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/Players/ISISStandAlonePlayer.aspx?Id=d49267dc-394c-4a45-951c-73f4a95943b4>

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through a quarterly Health Check Update Bulletin. Update Bulletin #1 will be released by email to stakeholders on Friday, April 14, 2023.

Overview of Population Health Assessment

Population health assessment, including a comprehensive understanding of health inequities, allows Hamilton Public Health Services to identify the population health needs of the Hamilton community. Population health needs are typically longstanding issues that require many years and collective action by multiple partners and at multiple levels to address; public health is one of many contributors.

Should you require further information, please contact Catherine Holtz, Manager, Epidemiology & Evaluation Program at ext. 6708 or at catherine.holtz@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Board of Health Communication Update (2023-04-14) – Health Check Update Bulletin No1



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HEALTH CHECK UPDATE #1

APRIL 14, 2023



Hamilton Public Health Services' population health assessment report, [Health Check](#), is currently being updated and will be publicly available in early 2024.

Project Background

In 2018, Hamilton Public Health Services (Public Health) completed a comprehensive population health assessment ([Health Check](#)). It systematically quantified and compared the burden of various disease outcomes for City of Hamilton residents. In 2019, Public Health completed an equity analysis to begin to identify health inequalities within the City of Hamilton, particularly as it applied to public health programs. Public Health is now updating Health Check, which will include the equity analysis. The aim is to identify Hamilton's community health needs particularly related to population health risk factors and outcomes that public health programs and services work to improve in partnership with community health and social sectors.

The report will compare rates in Hamilton to Ontario and other peer health units that are like in size and sociodemographic composition. Health Check will include the following four broad components:

- Sociodemographic Profile
- Health Outcome Profile
- Risk Factor Profile
- Preliminary Pandemic Impact Assessment

Health Check 2023 will use existing data from key population health assessment sources. The report will also rank the contribution of various health risks based on the [Global Burden of Disease](#) approach and assess the impact of a set of socio-demographic factors on the health of Hamiltonians.

Public Health's vision for population health assessment is that, "our communities' collective understanding of our population's health status and health inequities improves the health and wellbeing of all Hamiltonians." Public Health will provide quarterly status updates to internal and external partners interested in this project in alignment with the City of Hamilton's commitment to transparency.

Status Update

Current Project Status	Milestones achieved	Upcoming Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalizing the analysis plan and stakeholder engagement plan. • Analyzing available data. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed the planning phase including identifying the scope of the project, timelines, resources, and deliverables. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete data analysis by early summer 2023. • Develop products summer/fall 2023.

Contact for Questions

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This document is available in alternate format upon request.