CORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF HURON

Health Unit

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Health
FROM: Nancy Rennick, Acting Senior Manager and Management Team
DATE: September 01, 2016
SUBJECT: **Administration Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board of Health accept this report of August 4, 2016 as presented for information.

COMMENTS

An invitation is extended to members of the board for our all staff meeting, Sept 12 from 9-12 and our annual Public Health Professional Day, Nov 21.

WAVE (Ways to Access Virtually Everything)

The health unit's intranet has been launched. WAVE was developed by our communications staff over the past year. It holds everything from policies to orientation resources to a calendar that our Infectious Disease Team uses to book immunization appointments. It also catalogues all our nutrition resources for use by Community Food Advisors. We are encouraging staff to begin their day by going to WAVE to get up to date news from management and colleagues. This is a tool that will increase effectiveness of internal communications as well as the functioning of several processes, such as booking out resources for external use.

Baby Friendly Initiative

Our final assessment for our accreditation will be Sept 14, 15 and 16. Rosemary Rognvaldson is our Board of Health Representative.

Rabies Control

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry has announced the start of its annual wild animal rabies oral vaccination program. Baits containing the rabies vaccine will be dropped from planes in areas where confirmed raccoon or fox strain rabies were identified. Given that

two cases of the fox strain rabies were identified in Perth County since December 2015, baiting will be conducted in Perth County and part of Huron County and is scheduled for early October 2016. Exposure to the bait is not harmful to people or pets however people are asked to not touch the baits but leave them for wild animals to consume. The Health Unit will issue a press release regarding the baiting program as we get closer to the start date.

Phone System

Our current phone system was installed in 2004 and the expected life of the system was to be approximately 10 years. We originally had two power supplies, so that we had backup in the case of failure. One power supply is no longer usable and is not replaceable through the normal channels, which means we are down to one power supply. When the system crashes it is taking longer for it to recover and become operational again and we are experiencing failure in some of the features. Meetings are taking place between the County IT staff and the Health Unit about possible replacements. We have put in place contingency plans for the event of a total system failure. A small number of phones will be purchased and the Health Unit will use the County's system on a limited basis until a permanent solution is completed.

OTHERS CONSULTED

Huron County Health Unit Management Team
Huron County IT Department

Original Signed By

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Nancy Rennick
Acting Senior Manager
Huron County Health Unit