

## Lakelands Public Health Board of Health Meeting Summary

**Date:** Wednesday, May 20, 2026. | **Called to Order:** 4 p.m. EST | **Video:** [Watch on YouTube](#)

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### Board Welcomes New Member

The Board welcomed Frances Gerow, the new provincial appointee to Lakelands Public Health Board of Health. Frances, a registered nurse, recently retired from the Campbellford Memorial Hospital after 46 years and was an active on numerous committees contributing to improvements in healthcare delivery.

### Medical Officer of Health Update

Dr. Thomas Piggott, Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer for Lakelands Public Health, provided an update that included:

- Emerging Infectious Disease: There has been an outbreak of infectious disease, Hantavirus and Ebola, noting no immediate local cases requiring a change in public behaviour, but reinforcing the importance of readiness and healthcare-provider communication.
- Strategic Plan: Phase two of the strategic plan is underway, with public surveys, partner interviews, focus groups, and community town halls being used to gather feedback across the region. Port Hope and Haliburton town halls have already happened. Lindsay's is tonight and Peterborough is May 26. Curve Lake First Nation is on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and Haiawatha First Nations will be on June 25<sup>th</sup> and we're planning broader engagement with our Indigenous communities.
- Grand Rounds Meetings: Meetings with medical chiefs of staff, that are continuing medical education accredited, to discuss important health topics. The last was on antiviral, Ebola, but also environmental health issues, the next one is set for June, and another one will happen in the fall.
- Organizational Recruitment Efforts: There has been a recruitment effort to fill the positions of Director of Corporate Services, and an Associate Medical Officer of Health.

## Reports

### 8.1 The People Behind the Numbers

The Board of Health for Lakelands Public Health received a presentation from Meghan Bowman, Epidemiologist. Meghan presented on how local data can help guide health planning and evidence-based decision-making as we translate statistics into healthier communities. A demo was provided on how to use the Public Health Data Dashboard found on the website - [LakelandsPH.ca/inspections-data-and-reports/public-health-data/](https://LakelandsPH.ca/inspections-data-and-reports/public-health-data/)

### 8.2 Food Insecurity and Food Affordability

Sarah Tsang, Health Equity Coordinator and Dietician, and Lauren Kennedy, Nutritionist Community Health from Lakelands Public Health presented on the region's food insecurities, and the effects it has on overall health. This presentation reinforced that household food insecurity is primarily an income issue requiring upstream policy solutions. Sarah and Lauren are collaborating with other health units developing a provincial report that will be used for informing policies.

## Next Meeting



Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 4 p.m. in Curve Lake First Nation, and will be in-person/hybrid.

**Agenda and Meeting Package**

To view the Board of Health Meeting Summary, Agenda and Package visit [LakelandsPH.ca/BOH](https://LakelandsPH.ca/BOH).

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