



**INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT/
SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 17, 2004, 9:00 a.m.

County Building, Wyoming - Committee Room #1

1. Public Works – J. Kutyba **PW1 – PW21**
2. Planning & Development/Building Services – J. Kutyba..... **PD1 – PD34**
3. Social Services – K. Dick **SS1 – SS32**
4. Community Health Services – K. Dick..... **CHSD1 – CHSD15**

INFRASTRUCTURE & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

November 17, 2004

PUBLIC WORKS and FACILITIES SERVICES

PART A **Follow-up from Previous Month(s)**

1. *County Council at its meeting November 3, 2004 tabled Motion #19 of the October 20, 2004 Infrastructure & Development Services/Social & Health Services Committee Minutes addressing recommendations with respect to future capital improvements to County Road Depots until a further report addressing operating costs related to the various options was considered. Please find attached the report requested.*

pages 5-8

Recommendation

That Motion #19 of the October 20, 2004 meeting of the Infrastructure & Development/Health & Social Services Committee be lifted from the Table; and further,

That Committee support the recommendation (Motion #19) as follows to County Council:

That capital funds be allocated in the 2005 budget to undertake improvements (replace steel siding/roof on the existing building, install a wash bay in the existing building, construct a new five bay building, and other related work at an estimated cost of \$297,000) to the Oil City Depot;

That capital funds be allocated in the 2005 budget to undertake improvements (installation of two overhead doors on north face of building to improve access to the storage area and repair of the salt dome at an estimated cost of \$50,000) to the Petrolia Depot;

That capital funds be allocated in the 2005 budget to undertake improvements (construction of a four bay building and the replacement of the existing fabric-covered salt dome with a traditional wood-framed asphalt-shingled dome and other related work at an estimated cost of \$380,000) to the Forest Depot;

That the Alvinston Depot be deemed surplus to the County's needs and disposed of in accordance with the restrictive covenants placed on the original transfer (February 15, 2001) from the Ministry of Transportation;

That the County retain the Warwick Depot until such time as the restrictive covenants placed on the original transfer (February 15, 2001) from the Ministry of Transportation expires in 2011; and further,

PART A **Follow-up from Previous Month(s) (continued)**

That all proposed budget allocations be subject to County Council approval as part of the 2005 budget process.

PART B **Monthly Activities**1. Accounts and Verification

Totals for the month of October:

Roads	\$ 1,197,971.46
Waste Management	\$ 111,476.44
Facilities Services	\$ 12,152.70

A listing of the accounts will be available at the meeting.

- | | |
|---|-----|
| i) Are there any items significantly over Budget? | No |
| ii) Are there any items significantly under Budget? | No |
| iii) Were all items purchased in accordance with County Policy? | Yes |
| iv) Are there any items that were not in the Budget? | No |

2. Revenue and Verification

Revenues received during the month of October:

Roads	\$ 93,284.00
Waste Management	\$ 26,192.00
Facilities Services	\$ 257.00

- | | |
|---|----|
| i) Were any receipts not included in the current year's budget? | No |
| ii) Were any receipts significantly less than budgeted? | No |
| iii) Were any receipts significantly more than budgeted? | No |

3. Items of Committee Interest Pages 9-19a) Environmental Assessment for proposed Warwick Landfill Expansion

pages 9-10

Waste Management of Canada Corporation announced that the environmental assessment for the proposed Warwick landfill expansion will resume in early November. Discussion Papers #7 (Detailed Impact Assessment), #8 (Conceptual Design and Operations Plan) and #9 (Impact Management Plan which includes the Community Commitments Agreement) will be released on November 9. The consultation process will take 150 days, commencing in November and ending by late April 2005.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

Mandaumin Side Roads (CR #26). The petition deals with their concerns of reduced safety due to the volume of truck traffic on London Line. The residents are petitioning for the following changes:

1. Restrict truck traffic to local deliveries only.
2. Reduce the speed limit to 60 km/hr.
3. Eliminate all Passing Zones.
4. Relocate the shoulder marking closer to the edge of the road.
5. Increase police surveillance in the area.

Discussion: Traffic on London Line has been an issue that pre-dates the transfer of this secondary highway from the Province to the County in 1997. Its proximity to Highway 402 along with the development of businesses on CR #22 to serve these vehicles has resulted in increased use by trucks. The problem of increased truck traffic on the County Road System is one that has appeared before Committee a number of times and CR #22 is not the only road. The County Road System is an arterial road system designed to accommodate the type and volumes of traffic that, unfortunately, impacts those living on these roads. Restricting certain vehicle types (i.e. trucks) on any part of the road system reduces the effectiveness of the road system as a whole. I would suggest that this issue be tabled to a future meeting to allow staff to prepare a report addressing the various issues raised by the current petition and also to bring a historical perspective to the County's involvement with this particular road section since 1997.

Recommendation

That correspondence item 11-18-04 be tabled to allow staff time to prepare a report addressing the various issues raised by the current petition and also to bring a historical perspective to the County's involvement with this particular road section since 1997 for Committee and Council's further consideration.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Village of Point Edward Official Plan and Zoning By-law

Although the new Official Plan has been drafted and reviewed with Council, the project has been on hold for some time pending the submission and gathering of information on significant projects which could be included in the draft of the OP document prior to it being scheduled for public meetings and circulated to affected agencies. We hope to discuss the project again with Point Edward Council at its November 9 meeting.

Town of Plympton-Wyoming Comprehensive Zoning By-law

Council held a public meeting on October 18, 2004, regarding zoning regulations in the Blue Point Area. Council approved a zoning amendment adopting the same zoning in this area as generally applies to other areas along the lake within the Shoreline Management Area. The zoning amendment is now going through the appeal period.

Village of Oil Springs Official Plan

The required Public Meeting and Open House will be held on November 16, 2004.

Township of St. Clair Parking Study

The Downtown Corunna Comprehensive Parking Study has been completed. St. Clair Township Committee of the Whole moved to have the Planner's recommendations brought forward to Council for consideration on October 18th. At the October 18th Council meeting, Council moved to have the Township's Committee of the Whole determine which recommendations to adopt and implement.

b) Town of Plympton Wyoming Official Plan Amendment # 11

Official Plan Amendment #11 was adopted by the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council on October 27, 2004 by By-law 93 of 2004, and was received by the County of Lambton on November 1, 2004 and approved on November 3, 2004. The appeal period will expire November 23, 2004.

This is a site-specific amendment for the purpose of changing the designation on a portion of the lands described as Part Lots 34, 35, 36 & 37, Front Concession in the former Township of Plympton, Town of Plympton-Wyoming from the "Restricted Agriculture Area" to the "Lakeshore

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Residential Area” designation. This change will initially permit the creation of a new residential subdivision. The current designation “Restricted Agricultural Area”, “Lakeshore Area” and “Significant Woodlot” on the balance of the property will remain unchanged.

There is a concurrent Zoning By-law Amendment to change the zoning on the property from Hazard (H), Environmental Protection – Lakeshore 4 (EP-L4), Woodlot (WD) and Restricted Agriculture (A2) Zones to Hazard (H), Woodlot (WD), Environmental Protection – Lakeshore 4 (EP-L4) and Residential and Restricted Agriculture (A2) Zones.

c) **Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program**

The Nutrient Management Financial Assistance Program (NMFAP) is a \$20 million initiative designed to help farmers pay the costs associated with becoming compliant with the Nutrient Management Act. NMFAP is retroactive to May 18, 2004, and will share the costs of projects completed by the end of 2005. To provide the province’s large livestock farmers with additional time to access this funding, the Ontario government has amended the regulation under the Act to align compliance dates with the availability of funding.

The financial assistance program is targeted to approximately 1,200 existing large livestock operators (e.g. livestock operations with more than 300 nutrient units) and will share the costs of a number of eligible items, including:

- new and/or improved manure storages and handling;
- farmyard runoff control and outdoor confinement areas;
- nutrient management strategy/plan development;
- water well management;
- vegetative buffer strip establishment;
- cropland erosion control structures;
- manure treatment technologies;
- technologies to recover nutrients from agricultural washwaters;
- in-barn modifications to reduce the volume of manure; and
- on-farm nutrient product and waste management technologies.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

d) Sustainable Green Power Generation

The Ontario government is partnering on a project that will reduce greenhouse gases from manure and generate green power. The announcement was made jointly by Agriculture and Food Minister Steve Peters and Energy Minister Dwight Duncan on October 25th.

The government of Ontario will invest \$1,604,603 towards the creation of an integrated anaerobic digestion facility that will convert biogas from manure into heat and electricity. The Lynn Cattle Company Inc. will produce substantial amounts of electricity – enough to power its own operations as well as to sell surplus electricity on the market. The Municipality of North Middlesex has agreed to purchase 2,500 megawatt-hours of electricity annually, enough to power all municipally owned property for the year, making it the first green-powered municipality in Canada. The project could reduce farm odours by 80 percent.

e) Building Inspectors Service Area

Attached is a memo from Jeff Jilek, Manager, Building Services, outlining the minor adjustments made to the building inspectors' service areas as a result of recent retirements. A map illustrating the assigned areas is also provided for the committee's perusal.

f) Planning and Development Services Statistics

Planning and Development Services Statistics are attached.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

None at this time.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

2. Amendments to the County Emergency Response Plan

Attached is a memo from Mark Wetering, Emergency Management Coordinator.

Recommendation

That the noted amendments be incorporated into the County Emergency Plan; and further,

That the implementing By-law be submitted to County Council for its consideration.

SOCIAL & HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION
GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

November 17, 2004

SOCIAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

PART A **Follow-up from Previous Month(s)**

1. No matters to report at this time.

PART B **Monthly Activities**

1. Accounts and Verification

Total for the month of October \$1,495,828.78

- i) Are there any items significantly over Budget? No
- ii) Are there any items significantly under Budget? No
- iii) Were all items purchased in accordance with County Policy? Yes
- iv) Are there any items that were not in the Budget? No

2. Revenue and Verification

Revenues received during the month of October \$747,662.00

- i) Were any receipts not included in the current year's budget? No
- ii) Were any receipts significantly less than budgeted? No
- iii) Were any receipts significantly more than budgeted? No

3. Items of Committee Interest

- a) Social Services Department – Employment Assistant Funding

In August 2004, Committee was advised of a potential shortfall in employment assistance funding of approximately \$226,166.00. On October 15, 2004, the provincial Municipal Services Manager verbally informed the South West Regional Strategic Management group that there would be additional funding to address the 2004 employment assistance shortfall. The amount of additional funding has not been finalized and is pending the receipt of 3rd quarter reports.

In addition, staff were verbally advised at the same meeting that the maximum employment assistance funding envelope would be restored for 2005.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**3. Items of Committee Interestb) Social Services Department – Enhancement Fund

In November 2003, Committee was provided information related to the planned expenditure of \$167,000.00 in Community Placement Enhancement Funding that was received for exceeding 2001/2002 service level targets. At year end it is estimated that there will be \$28,587.00 remaining in the fund which according to Ministry criteria must be used towards new human services projects supporting work with the hard to serve, development of community placement projects, and/or assist with transportation needs or children's services. In the event of a surplus in the balance of the funds available at the end of 2004, it had been recommended that a Call for Proposals be extended to community agencies to develop new human services projects that met the Ministry mandate.

In lieu of a Call for Proposal to community agencies, staff are recommending that the \$28,587.00 be dedicated to the development of programming that supports the transition from social assistance to employment. The lessons learned from participants of the new FOCUS workshop for long term social assistance recipients, from our community placement volunteers, through the experience of Cascade Engineering, and from the staff discussion groups all reinforce the need for such creative programming.

c) Social Services Department – OMSSA Zone 1 Meeting

The Ontario Municipal Social Services (OMSSA) Zone 1 fall training seminar was hosted by Lambton County October 6-7, 2004 at the Holiday Inn in Point Edward. The organizing committee did an excellent job in coordinating the event which was attended by 186 staff from municipal offices across the Southwest Region, as well as community services agencies from Lambton and London.

The theme of the training forum was '*Communicating in a Diverse World.*' Of particular note was the full day presentation given by Ron Jimmerson of Cascade Engineering in Michigan. Mr. Jimmerson provided information on the 'Welfare to Career' program designed by his employer to assist social assistance recipients in making the transition to employment. It is a unique program in that all staff at Cascade Engineering are trained on understanding poverty and the hidden barriers for individuals making the transition from social assistance to employment.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Cascade then provides on-site supports to individuals making the transition from social assistance regarding financial planning, attendance management, child care and transportation planning assistance, home ownership and negotiating financing.

Cascade Engineering has used the academic work of Dr. Ruby Payne, ‘*A Framework for Understanding Poverty*’ as the foundation for the development of the core values associated with the Welfare to Career program. Dr. Payne’s book has formed the basis for social services staff discussion groups held in October and November, led by Special Services Supervisor Gayle Miner. All staff have read the book and are participating in a discussion around understanding the hidden rules of poverty, challenging staff to examine their personal beliefs and attitudes as they impact the Department’s programs and service.

d) Social Services Department – Pay It Forward Lambton

Committee will recall to “Pay It Forward” is to do a service for someone, and asking them to pay the kindness forward instead of paying it back. If each person pays it forward to three people, and they pay it forward to three more people, it keeps growing and the benefits multiply. It is the firm belief that there are people in the Lambton community who currently perform random acts of kindness. This program supports the Corporate Vision - *Caring* ✧ *Growing* ✧ *Innovative*.

This idea was first developed by author Catherine Ryan-Hyde. Her book was later made into a motion picture in 2000. She stated, “When an entire community commits to the Pay It Forward idea, hope is alive and well. Those who doubt the basic goodness of people can find their answer in individual grass-roots movement like this.”

“*Pay It Forward Lambton*” is supported by local agencies throughout the County of Lambton, to promote random acts of kindness Activities planned during week of October 18, 2004 featured a website launch (www.payitforwardlambton.com) and media release at Ebtech; a reception featuring Harmony and Reverend Bob Gibson, and the movie, “Pay It Forward” was shown at the Sarnia Library Auditorium; a Food Fair by United Way; a day of kindness and the finale, a concert at a local coffee house featuring local artists and a basket auction.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

The activities included a can good donation to The Salvation Army, proceeds from a book sale to Organization for Literacy in Lambton and basket auction revenues to the group Harmony. At the reception local agencies were highlighted and displays were welcomed.

It is the intent of the project to showcase the community and the goodness that currently is being spread and to inform the public of how easy and simple it is to “Pay It Forward.”

e) Children’s Services Department – Statistical Report

Number of Children, by Age Groups

Age Group	Age	# of Children October 31, 2003	# of Children October 31, 2004
Infant	0 – 17 months	51	62
Toddler	18 – 31 months	111	101
Preschool	32 months – 5 yr.	314	259
Kindergarten	5 – 6 years	109	109
School Age	6 – 9 years	139	184
Other	Over 9 years	69	79
TOTAL		793	794

Total Exits (Children) in October

Age Group	Age	# of Children October 31, 2003	# of Children October 31, 2004
Infant	0 – 17 months	5	5
Toddler	18 – 31 months	24	6
Preschool	32 months – 5 yr.	27	15
Kindergarten	5 – 6 years	12	11
School Age	6 – 9 years	22	21
Other	Over 9 years	11	10
TOTAL		101	68

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**f) Social Services Department – Statistical Report

The attached Ontario Works statistical report is for the month of October 2004. The decrease of 61 cases represents a decrease of 3.7% over the previous month. Year-to-date, the caseload has increased by 3.26% with the average caseload at 105.7 cases per caseworker.

Month	Budget Estimate	Actual
December, 2001		1,770
December, 2002		1,534
December 2003	1,536	1,536
January 2004	1,536	1,577
February 2004	1,536	1,582
March 2004	1,536	1,640
April 2004	1,536	1,640
May 2004	1,536	1,672
June 2004	1,536	1,703
July 2004	1,536	1,695
August 2004	1,536	1,691
September 2004	1,536	1,647
October 2004	1,536	1,586

g) Social Services Department – Caseload Trends

Staff has prepared the Ontario Works – *Caseload Trends & Economic Indicators* report (attached) that examines several factors that can impact the Ontario Works caseload. Based on the findings of the examination of the various factors it is predicted the Ontario Works caseload may increase by as much as 6% to 8% next year in the County of Lambton.

4. General Manager's ReportRecommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

- a) 11-22-04 Correspondence from the Ministry of Community & Social Services regarding Cost Sharing for the Assistance Devices Program.

Recommendation

That correspondence 11-22-04 be noted and filed.

2. Social Services Department – Family Counselling Centre

In August 2004, an audit was completed by compliance staff from the Social Planning & Program Support team on adherence to the Agreement between the Family Counselling Centre and Ontario Works. The Ontario Works Act stipulates that an applicant under the age of 18 is ineligible unless special circumstances exist which prevent them from living at home with their parents. The Agreement with the Family Counselling Centre provides for an assessment of the special circumstances in order to justify the issuance of social assistance and also provides for counselling with the parents if they are willing to participate. In addition, the Family Counselling Centre acts as a trustee for the applicant if required.

Staff from the Family Counselling Centre and Ontario Works met in October 2004 to discuss the report and review the recommendations. In general, it was found that there was satisfaction with the Agreement and the relationship between Family Counselling and Ontario Works staff. It was agreed that the terms of the Agreement continue to provide the needed supports for the individual applicant as well as facilitating eligibility decisions.

The audit report recommended that the 1998 Agreement be updated. The current assessment rate is \$460.00 and a counselling rate for five sessions is \$460.00. It is proposed that the Agreement be updated and that the rate increase to \$510.00 for an assessment and \$510.00 for six counselling sessions (an increase of one). Trustee rates of \$35.00 per month are to remain the same. The total liability under the current Agreement is \$29,000.00 Based on 2004 estimated expenditures, the increase should have a nominal impact on the 2005 budget and is anticipated to be \$2,300.00 gross/\$1,150.00 net per annum.

PART C Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)

Recommendation

That Council direct staff to update the Family Counselling Centre Agreement and that the rates increase to \$510.00 for a family assessment and \$510.00/case for counselling services which entails six sessions; and further,

That the total liability under the Agreement shall not exceed \$33,000.00, subject to approval of County Council.

3. Ontario Disability Support Program Expenditures

Effective January 1, 1998, cost sharing on Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) allowances and benefits moved from 100% provincial to 80% provincial and 20% municipal, and the cost of administration for the program also moved from 100% provincial to 50% provincial and 50% municipal.

There has been a significant increase in provincial billings to Lambton County for the Ontario Disability Support program since 2000 as demonstrated below.

Provincial billings	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004 (Estimate)
Administration	776,406	655,090	761,329	926,006	924,632
Allowances	3,831,362	3,882,795	3,918,524	3,603,656	4,406,263
Drug Benefits ODSP	532,188	631,303	700,192	758,460	889,135
Drug Benefits OW	142,183	143,055	129,716	144,044	152,101
Dental	99,992	76,988	66,712	60,035	95,510
Vision Care	7,898	9,214	9,907	8,641	10,823
Other	4,597	10,525	4,018	12,017	
Total	\$4,618,220	\$5,408,972	\$5,590,399	\$5,512,861	\$6,478,465

Total program expenditures have increased by \$1,860,245.00 or 40.28% since 2000. In addition, the following observations may be noted for the 2000 – 2004 period.

- The ODSP caseload load has increased 11.6% since 1999 or 225 cases;
- Administration costs have increased 19.09%. These costs include direct program support as well as policy development through Social Assistance Municipal Operations and the Ontario Works Branch;

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

- Client allowances increased 15%. The decrease in client expenditures demonstrated in 2003 may be attributed to a cash flow adjustment due to the 2002 provincial strike;
- The tracking of expenditures for a number of items has been perfected and/or established since devolution. Had tracking mechanisms been in place initially the baseline would have been higher. It could therefore be argued by the Province that percentage increase would have been less and that the comparisons made are not totally fair;
- ODSP drug benefits increased 67%. Ontario Works drug benefits increased 6.97%;
- Vision care costs increased by 37%;
- Dental expenditures are down by 4.5%, however the introduction of electronic billings by dentists in 2004 has increased expenditures by 59% over 2003;
- Other benefit billings have decreased to zero, however this is reflective of a change in billing practices for hearing aids which commencing 2004 are included in client allowances.

In addition to the expenditures previously identified, on October 13, 2004 the Ministry announced that delivery agents would begin cost sharing the ODSP consumer contribution for an assistive device purchased under the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's (MOHLTC) Assistive Device Program. The cost of the assessment for an item has been cost shared with municipalities. The MOHLTC is now able to provide detailed information related to the purchase of the individual item. In December 2004 an estimate will be processed based on July–September 2004 actual costs. Based on provincial estimates this is expected to have an annualized budget impact of \$24,000.00 gross or \$4,800.00 net.

The financial burden on the municipal tax base related to Ontario Disability Support Program expenditures is significant. The costs associated with the program continue to increase and there is no local control or accountability over expenditures which represent 28.78% of the 2004 Ontario Works Income Support base budget.

PART C Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)

Recommendation

That Council petition the Government of Ontario to reconsider the cost sharing arrangement related to the Ontario Disability Support Program such that the Province of Ontario assume responsibility for 100% of all costs related to the delivery of the program, including administration, client allowances and all other benefits.

4. Social Services Department - Domiciliary Hostel Rate Increase

Domiciliary Hostels are permanent residences for persons with special needs. Under the Ministry of Community and Social Services Act, Queen's Lodge and Wallis Residential have entered into Agreements with the County of Lambton to provide domiciliary hostel services. The operators receive a \$40.00 per diem to provide residents with accommodation and supports to daily living. In addition, the operators provide a \$112.00 monthly personal needs allowance payment directly to residents which is reimbursed by the County. There is 80:20 cost sharing on both the per diem payment and personal needs allowance.

Effective July 1, 2004 the Ministry of Community and Social Services announced rate increases for domiciliary hostels. The maximum per diem rate increased to \$41.20 and the personal needs allowance maximum increased to \$116.00. These rate changes are effective July 1, 2004. There will be 100% cost sharing on any increase in domiciliary hostel rates in 2004, with cost sharing reverting to 80:20 commencing January 1, 2005.

Staff are recommending that the Agreements with Wallis Residential and Queen's Lodge be updated to reflect the \$41.20 per diem and \$116.00 personal needs allowance effective July 1, 2004. There will be no financial impact to the County in 2004 as the Ministry has assumed full responsibility for the increase to December 31, 2004. There will be a minimal impact to the 2005 County budget when cost sharing reverts to 80:20 and is anticipated to be \$4,000.00 gross \$800.00 net per annum.

Recommendation

That Council direct staff to update the Wallis Residential and Queen's Lodge Agreements effective July 1, 2004 to reflect a maximum per diem payment of \$41.20 and a maximum personal needs allowance of \$116.00.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

5. Youth Recreation and Sports Program

The Youth Recreation and Sports Program (YRASP) delivered by the Sarnia-Lambton YMCA is designed to improve the mental health and well being of parents receiving social assistance benefits by providing recreation and leisure opportunities for children newborn to 17 years of age. By enrolling children in healthy constructive recreational and leisure activity, parents are better able to cope with their situation and transition back into the work force sooner. While participating in recreational and leisure activities children have the opportunity to develop physically, socially, and emotionally, as detailed in the attached memorandum.

Recommendation

That the County of Lambton publicly acknowledge the significant contribution by the participating agencies/associations/organizations to the success of Youth Recreation and Sports Program.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

A young child in Sarnia was hospitalized in London with tubercular meningitis. Communicable disease staff investigated to ensure that all contacts were tested and treated as necessary, and to determine, if possible, where the child may have contracted this infection. One related active case of tuberculosis has been identified as a result of this investigation.

Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Influenza vaccination clinics commenced October 7, 2004 with clinics being offered both in the community and in individual schools, through out Lambton County. This year, staff will also be providing flu clinics in three daycare settings. A complete list of the public flu clinics appeared in local newspapers and is available on the Department's website, www.lambtonhealth.on.ca.

Clinics to date have been very busy, with nearly 1,300 clients being immunized at one Thursday clinic in Pt. Edward. The concerns expressed in the media regarding the shortage of vaccine in the United States has led to the public getting into the clinics or their physician's offices sooner this season. Many inquiries are being received from American media and individuals regarding the availability of flu vaccine. The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care provides the vaccine, and direction from the Ministry is that the Health Units/Departments are only able to administer this vaccine to those who live, work or attend school in Ontario. Confusion has arisen because in some communities, such as Fort Erie, individual private clinics have purchased vaccine from the manufacturer and are selling it to Americans. The Ministry's position is that any sale of vaccine to the United States needs to be dealt with at a federal level, and distributed by the American Federal Government, in order for it to be directed to their high risk population.

A workshop was provided to staff from physicians' offices and other health care providers. This workshop dealt with the three new vaccines that are now being provided through the Ministry (meningitis, chicken pox, and pneumococcal diseases) and also an update regarding the flu vaccine for this season.

Rabies

A provincial shortage of rabies vaccine is continuing. To date, sufficient vaccine has been available for the Department's post-exposure use. Twenty-one biting incidents occurred this month, and two individuals received post-exposure vaccine.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Safe Water

A Boil Water Advisory issued to a group home in the Township of Dawn-Euphemia as a result of unsatisfactory water, was lifted.

Staff attended a meeting in Woodstock regarding “*What Municipal Leaders Should Know About Their Water System.*” The meeting was opened to municipal leaders, water operators, and health department personnel in Southwestern Ontario. Topics discussed included Regulation 170/03, Regulation 128/04, due diligence and liability, and the water system infrastructure.

Staff investigated an adverse water issue which arose during a routine test of the emergency pumping system at the Lambton Area Water Supply (LAWSS.) The system failed for a short period of time causing a drop in water pressure in the water mains. After consultation with the Medical Officer of Health and the Ministry of Environment, LAWSS staff flushed the ends of lines and took bacteriological samples and chlorine residuals to ensure the municipal drinking water system was not compromised.

Food Safety

Public Health Inspectors have been busy with numerous Food Safety lectures and presentations to various groups and food service personnel. During the month, 37 food handlers became certified bringing the yearly total to 151.

Inspections were conducted at food booths at two County fairs. In all, 38 food booths were inspected. For the most part, there were no significant problems encountered during these inspections.

Sexual Health

Staff attended the Southwest regional meeting on Sexual Health at Middlesex-London Health Unit. Through this forum valuable information is shared among public health nurses in Southwestern Ontario.

Staff gave a presentation on the use of the “*Epi-Pen*” to school bus drivers as an action to take when a student has an allergic anaphylactic reaction. There were 25 drivers in attendance.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**Tobacco Control

Enforcement Officers continue to conduct routine compliance inspections in public places and workplaces. Issues with the lack of signage continue to be the biggest form of non-compliance. No charges have been laid to date under County of Lambton By-Law #10-2004.

Fifteen smoking notices have been issued to students for holding lighted tobacco on school property.

West Nile Virus

A West Nile virus positive horse was reported to the Community Health Services Department, September 29, 2004. The horse was not vaccinated, and last reports indicate the animal has almost fully recovered. As a result of this positive equine case, an *adult mosquito over-wintering project* has begun in Lambton County. It involves weekly larval and mosquito surveillance in three barns in St. Clair Township. No positive mosquito pools have been found in these barns to date. The project will continue based on weather and the number of adult mosquitoes captured. The Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care is funding this project.

The Department has concluded the regular West Nile virus surveillance activities for 2004. West Nile virus statistics pertaining to Ontario and Lambton County for 2003 and 2004 are noted below:

	Ontario 2004	Lambton 2004
Human cases	13	0
Equine cases	9	1
Positive birds	237	5
Positive mosquito pools	70	2

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

	Lambton 2003	Lambton 2004
Bird sightings	512	283
Bird Submissions	16	24
Positive birds	7	5
Mosquito trap locations	41*	35
Number of traps set	71*	159
Mosquitoes captured	7,715*	5,767
Positive mosquito pools	0	2
Stagnant water (municipal)	17	39
Stagnant water (private)	41	53

* includes First Nations data from 2003

Nutrition

Seven pilot schools have been chosen to participate in a project to increase the level of physical activity and promote healthy eating in schools.

Physical Activity

The City of Sarnia has passed a motion to designate streets recommended by the Bluewater Trail Committee as part of the Lambton County Regional Trail System (LCRTS.) Sarnia also passed a motion to approve installation of Share the Road signage on city streets designated as part of the LCRTS.

Tobacco Use

Tobacco Cessation information was presented to staff at the Lambton Shared Services Centre and StarTek. Vehicle no-smoking stickers have been distributed to companies that use vehicles for their business such as taxi cab companies, bus companies, and police.

Early Detection and Cancer Prevention

The Lambton Cancer Prevention Network hosted an evening with a local chef and a Registered Dietitian. The event, titled 'Prevention from Your Garden – Eat Healthy! Live Longer!' was well attended.

PART B **Monthly Activities (continued)**

Substance Abuse

Smart Serve training sessions have been provided for Corunna Legion volunteers, Lambton County staff and the Lambton College Student Association.

Worksites

The new Healthy Living at Work Action Guide and the new Healthy Workplace Awards Program was launched at a Chamber of Commerce event on October 21. The Action guide is available in CD ROM format and also in PDF on the Community Health Services Department website, www.lambtonhealth.on.ca.

Early Child Development Project

A new Parent Resource Guide will be launched in November. A campaign to raise awareness about family violence prevention and abuse during pregnancy will begin in November.

4. General Manager's Report

Recommendation

That the General Manager's Report as set out in Part A and Part B be accepted as presented.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion**

1. Correspondence

- a) 11-21-04 Email correspondence advising of the release of the Graham Scott Report, relating to the Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care *Assessor's Report* on the Muskoka-Parry Sound Health Unit.

Recommendation

That correspondence 11-21-04 be noted and filed.

PART C **Other Matters Requiring a Motion (continued)**

2. Staff Retirement

The attached memorandum is to advise Committee of Iris Murtha, Manager, Environmental Health & Prevention Services intent to retire December 31, 2004.

Recommendation

That the November 17, 2004 memorandum is provided for Committee's information.

3. Healthy Schools = Healthier Children

The attached memorandum provides details regarding the *School Community Award*, recently presented to St. Benedict's School honouring the school community for its dedication to active, healthy children and youth.

Recommendation

That County Council extend its congratulations to students and staff of St. Benedict's School on receiving the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) *School Community Award*, acknowledging the significant efforts to enhance active, healthy living opportunities for the children and youth in its school community.