

For Information

DATE: February 16, 2012

REPORT TITLE: **2011 INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION OF CANADA AWARD
FOR PEEL PUBLIC HEALTH**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services
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OBJECTIVE

To advise that Peel Public Health has been recognized by the Institute of Public Administration (IPAC) with a Silver Award in the health-care category of the 2011 IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- On February 13, 2012, the Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) announced that Peel Public Health won the Silver Award in the health-care category of the IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards.
- The IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards recognizes and rewards organizations that have shown outstanding leadership and excellence by demonstrating the vision, commitment and capacity to set a new course in the pursuit of better outcomes.
- Peel Public Health has been recognized for its demonstrated leadership in integrating evidence-informed decision making into the work of its divisions to determine the most appropriate and effective public health services for Peel's community and residents.

DISCUSSION

1. Background

a) The Institute of Public Administration of Canada

The Institute of Public Administration of Canada (IPAC) is a national association founded in 1947 with a mission to promote excellence in public service. IPAC advances the theory and practice of public management and governance to create knowledge networks and stimulate innovation and the creative exchange of ideas and best practices among public servants, academics and students of public administration.

b) The IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards Program

The IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards program began in 2008 to recognize and reward organizations that have shown outstanding leadership and excellence by demonstrating vision, commitment and capacity to set a new course in the

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pursuit of better public sector outcomes. Winning projects reflect the importance of innovation, strategic thinking, trust and team building, shared vision, and effective collaboration and partnerships.

On February 13, 2012, IPAC recognized Peel Public Health for its demonstrated leadership in integrating evidence-informed decision making into the work of its divisions. This strategic direction received the silver award in the health-care category of the prestigious IPAC/Deloitte Public Sector Leadership Awards.

c) Evidence-Informed Decision Making (EIDM) at Peel Public Health

In 2009, Peel Public Health identified the need to enhance EIDM as a priority within its 10 year strategic plan. The goal of this priority is to fully embed EIDM into Peel Public Health's principles and processes. Committed leadership and staff engagement has been fundamental to the success of the strategy and in making Peel Public Health a leader in the application of research to improve the practice of public health and make the most effective use of limited resources.

Work to integrate evidence-informed decision making throughout Peel Public Health includes:

- Transforming the library from a few subscriptions into the information hub of the organization, complete with electronic and print resources, databases and tools to provide staff with reference services.
- Developing a rapid review process and conducting rapid reviews of the research evidence to address public health questions (20 questions completed and 10 more in progress).
- Using the rapid review process to address Term of Council Priorities related to obesity, child development and tobacco to inform our approach to these complex societal problems.
- Training 100 staff to assess, critically appraise, and apply research evidence.
- Making and implementing decisions in all our public health divisions informed by the evidence.
- Responding to requests from organizations across Canada to share our process and present our findings.
- Receiving three grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to study effective strategies for supporting EIDM in organizations.
- Working extensively with researchers and academics across Canada (to date we are involved with over a dozen universities and have received 16 grants as co-investigators).

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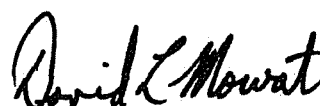
CONCLUSION

Peel Public Health has become a leader in the application of evidence to improve the practice of public health. Each decision made influences Peel Public Health programs and enhances our ability to help improve the health and well-being of our residents within existing resources.

Investing in this strategic priority has allowed us to find, appraise and apply research evidence to decisions made throughout Peel Public Health. We have made the reviews standard, transparent and publicly available on our website, which increases our accountability to the taxpayers, and supports improved practice across the Canadian public health system.

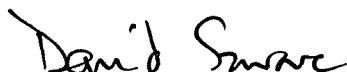


Janette Smith
Commissioner of Health Services



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