

For Information

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DATE: February 29, 2012

REPORT TITLE: **PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR THE PANORAMA INFORMATION SYSTEM**

FROM: Janette Smith, Commissioner of Health Services  
David L. Mowat, MBChB, MPH, FRCPC, Medical Officer of Health

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## **OBJECTIVE**

To provide an overview of the new Panorama health information management system, the anticipated benefits for Peel Public Health, and the provincial funding allocated for Panorama.

### **REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- The new Panorama health information management system will replace three separate data systems for immunization records, vaccine inventory and management, and communicable disease case and outbreak management.
- Implementation is expected to be completed in phases between 2013-2014.
- Peel Public Health has been granted additional funding until March 31, 2012 to participate in the Builder Role to prepare for Panorama implementation and share lessons learned with other public health units.
- Anticipated benefits of Panorama include improved integration and management of communicable disease, immunization tracking, inventory management and cost savings through increased efficiencies.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **1. Background**

In 2004, the Government of Canada granted Canada Health Infoway the mandate and funding to work with the provincial and territorial governments to develop Panorama, a pan-Canadian health information system. The system is intended to improve the surveillance and management of infectious diseases and the tracking of immunizations and vaccines. British Columbia, the Yukon and Quebec have already implemented Panorama, with other provinces to follow.

In Ontario, the Panorama project is headed by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) and the implementation of the new system will take place in phases across the province between 2012 and 2014.

Currently, Peel Public Health's immunization records, vaccine management, and communicable diseases case and outbreak information are managed by three data systems, IRIS, BIOS and iPHIS, respectively. These systems will be replaced by Panorama.

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The implementation of Panorama will require transforming the existing business processes and policies related to each of the three health information systems.

By March 2014, Panorama will be used by approximately 2,000 public health workers across the province. Implementation will require extensive involvement and subject matter expertise from Ontario's 36 public health units, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Government Pharmacy and Medical Supply Services, and Public Health Ontario.

### 2. Builder Role

Builder Health Units have received funding from the MOHLTC to perform additional preparatory activities and provide feedback on the business transformation requirements for the implementation of Panorama at the local level, including: preparing for data migration; changes in technological infrastructure and internal support processes; and a detailed training needs assessment.

Peel Public Health along with Toronto, Middlesex-London, and Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington public health units have agreed to take on Panorama Builder roles.

### 3. Timeline

#### i) Phase 1: Immunization and Inventory Module

"Builder Role" preparatory activities are currently underway and include Panorama product testing to assess usability and detect defects. Implementation is expected to occur in early 2013.

#### ii) Phase 2: Investigations and Outbreak Management Module

Preparatory activities are expected to begin in late 2012 and implementation will likely occur in early 2014.

### 4. Expected Outcomes

Panorama is part of the Province's goal to improve the quality of health care in Ontario through the implementation of electronic health record systems by 2015. Through this, Panorama is expected to contribute to the quality of client care, the sustainability and responsiveness of the health system as well as produce cost savings.

In the shorter term, Panorama will improve the efficiency and accuracy of data collection related to communicable diseases, immunization and vaccine inventory.

### 5. Implications for Peel Public Health

The implementation of Panorama will impact many business processes used by approximately 200 staff working in the Communicable Diseases and Environmental Health Divisions.

Through the Builder Role, Peel Public Health will have early access to the Panorama system and the opportunity plan for successful implementation in Peel.

Panorama Builder funding will support dedicated project management and other resources to test the new system, analyze the impact of implementation, and conduct necessary planning and implementation activities.

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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Peel Public Health has been notified by the MOHLTC that we will receive \$246,165 in one-time 100 per cent funding for the 2011-2012 funding year to support the preparation for implementation of Phase 1 of Panorama (Appendix I and II). Specifically, one-time funding must be used toward short-term staffing costs to conduct the readiness assessment, data cleansing and preparatory activities, including high-level analysis of current business processes, immunization and inventory data analysis, and technology readiness for Panorama.

This one-time funding includes an amount of \$171,477 for participation as a Builder in the Panorama Builders program and must be used to prepare for the implementation, adoption and business transformation required for the successful rollout of Phase 1.

It is anticipated that funding for the Builder Role will continue in the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

**CONCLUSION**

The introduction of the Panorama health information management system is expected to improve the integration and management of communicable disease, immunization and inventory management data, and produce cost savings through increased efficiencies. With additional provincial funding, Peel Public Health is able to prepare for the transition to Panorama.

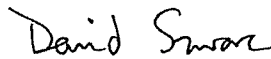


Janette Smith  
Commissioner of Health Services



David L. Mowat, MBChB, MPH, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health

**Approved for Submission:**



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D. Swarc, Chief Administrative Officer

*For further information regarding this report, please contact Monica Hau at extension 2989 or via email at [monica.hau@peelregion.ca](mailto:monica.hau@peelregion.ca)*

c. Legislative Services  
MLC Manager, Financial Support Unit (FSU)

APPENDIX I

Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

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FEB 23 2012

Mr. Emil Kolb  
Chair  
Peel Regional Board of Health  
10 Peel Centre Drive  
Brampton ON L6T 4B9

Dear ~~Mr. Kolb~~: *Emil*

I am pleased to advise you that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will provide the Peel Regional Board of Health up to \$246,165 in one-time 100% funding for the 2011-2012 funding year to support the preparation for implementation of Phase 1 of Panorama.

Roselle Martino, Executive Director (A) of the Public Health Division, and Lorelle Taylor, Assistant Deputy Minister and Chief Information Officer of the Health Services I&IT Cluster, will write to Dr. David Mowat, Medical Officer of Health, Peel Public Health, shortly concerning the terms and conditions governing this funding.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the Panorama project, which will contribute greatly to the improvement of public health in Ontario.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Deb Matthews in black ink.

Deb Matthews  
Minister

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