

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SURVEY FAQ (PAGE 1 OF 3)

Please see some of the most frequently asked questions regarding establishing a community Public Health Unit.

What is the purpose of this survey?

This survey helps us understand what community members know and think about public health, and whether they feel there are gaps in current services. The results will help guide future community engagement and information sharing. Additional surveys may follow later in the project.

What is a public health unit?

A public health unit is an organization that provides services to protect and improve community health. These services include things like food safety inspections, outbreak response, immunization programs, health education, parenting support, and nutrition services. In Ontario, public health units serve specific geographic regions.

Is public health the same as other healthcare?

No. Public health focuses on improving and protecting the health of entire communities, while other healthcare services mainly focus on treating individual patients.

Is this getting us closer to being a municipality?

No. The project is focused on exploring public health governance and service delivery. It is not intended to change Six Nations governance or move the community toward becoming a municipality.



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How is public health different from publicly funded healthcare?

Public health is a specific type of healthcare that focuses on community health, prevention, and protection. It is different from the term "publicly funded healthcare," which refers to healthcare services paid for by governments.

Don't we already have public health in-community?

Partly. Public health-related services are offered through Ohsweken Public Health and Six Nations departments, but there is no dedicated public health unit for the reserve. This project is exploring whether public health services could be locally governed, expanded, and integrated into Ontario's public health system.

What does the Six Nations Well-Being Department do differently than Ohsweken Public Health?

Both provide important health-related services, but their roles differ. The Department of Well-Being offers a broad range of health services, including health promotion and nutrition programs. Ohsweken Public Health focuses on federally funded public health programs such as immunizations, well-baby services, and outbreak management.



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Who currently oversees public health in-community?

Public health services are currently shared across several organizations. The Well-Being Department is overseen through Six Nations governance, while Ohsweken Public Health is overseen by Indigenous Services Canada. Grand Erie Public Health, which serves the surrounding region, is governed by a Board of Health.

Will the outcome of this project compromise the federal funding we already have for public health?

The goal is to maintain existing federal funding while exploring opportunities for additional provincial funding. Any proposal would aim to strengthen and expand public health services without reducing current funding.

I have filled in so many surveys over the years but haven't seen any change occur. Why would this be any different?

Past surveys have helped shape programs and services, even if the results were not always visible. This survey is intended to better understand community perspectives on public health and inform future discussions. Any final decisions will be made through the appropriate community and Council processes.

