

Health Unit MEDIA RELEASE

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Local Health Unit Receives Quality Award Four Years Running

The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit has done it again – well actually for the fourth time. **The local public health agency was informed at the Board of Health meeting last night in Gananoque that they will be receiving a four year accreditation award.**

Since 1990 the Health Unit has been successful in the accreditation process that is run by the Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation. This voluntary process evaluates the quality, effectiveness and efficiency of public health agencies in Ontario.

“Being an accredited agency is a clear sign that the services we provide are meeting provincial standards of quality.” said Dr. Anne Carter, Medical Officer of Health for the tri-county area, “Volunteering to go through the accreditation process demonstrates transparency and accountability and shows clients and partners - and reminds us, too - that our Health Unit is committed to ongoing excellence.”

Background on public health accreditation awards and local health unit history:

- A 2-year award means that the agency complies on a basic and fundamental level with the standards. The next OCCHA survey visit will be needed in two years' time.
- A 3-year award means that the agency complies with the standards on a more substantial level and will be surveyed again in three years.
- A 4-year award is given to an agency that fully complies with the standards. This generally means that the agency shows a high level of excellence in administration and service delivery, and that the accreditation is good for four years.
- A new 5-year award is being developed but was not available at the time of our survey.

1990: received 2-year award

Mid-1993: 4-year award

June 1998: 4-year award.

May 2002: 4-year award

June 2006: 4-year award

For more information on the accreditation process for public health units in Ontario, contact Susan Healey, Communications Coordinator at 613-345-5685.