

# Health Unit Media Release

June 22, 2011



## Health Unit Board Meeting Summary

**Audit:** The firm of Brent J. Burns, Chartered Accountant presented the results of their audit of the Health Unit for 2010. The auditors were satisfied with the accounting processes of the Health Unit. They did recommend that the Health Unit form an internal Audit Committee to provide the Board with further assurance on a quarterly basis that policies and procedures were being followed, and that the Board develop an investment policy for the Reserve Fund.

**Board Reserve Investment Policy:** The funds in the Board of Health Reserve Fund have come from the initial disposal of the former Health Unit office on Charles Street, annual surpluses in the municipal contribution to the budget, and the reimbursement from the province for municipal funds used to conduct the H1N1 mass immunization campaign. To avoid requesting additional levies from municipalities, the Reserve Fund will be used to cover the municipal share of the following Health Unit costs:

1. *One time capital expenditures relating to the maintenance of Health Unit owned buildings and grounds,*
2. *Programs identified as priority in our communities where there is no other funding source,*
3. *Priority one-time administrative expenses, and*
4. *Projected municipal deficit i.e. municipal liability of operating costs that exceed the current year levy.*

The Board approved an investment policy and a three year agreement between C.F.G. Heward Investment Management Ltd. and the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit to manage the Reserve Fund according to the investment policy.

**Strategic Plan and Organizational Review:** The Steering Committee for the Strategic Plan will meet on June 30, 2011 for the first time. There is strong Board, management, staff and community members participating in the committee. The consultants for the Organizational Review, which is part of the Strategic Plan, have completed all the key informant interviews with management and external partners. They will be coming to the Health Unit on June 22, 23 to hold focus groups with staff, meet with interested board members, and present their findings of the issues we need to address at the Think Tank, the 30 or so staff and management who will reflect on the findings, options and recommendation for the plan.

**Food Security:** In continuation of the November 2010 “Do the Math, Eat the Math” event to raise awareness about food security, the Health Unit is holding a “Work on the Math” event on June 24, 2011 from 9:30am- 12:00pm. This event is to recognize that many of the previous “Do the Math, Eat the Math” participants who lived off a food bank hamper for a week have been actively involved in food

security initiatives since the campaign. This event will allow them to share their remarkable stories. Other community partners who have made strides on food security related initiatives have also been invited to participate in the discussion. Our event partner, the Food Matters Coalition will be hosting a movie screening of a documentary - "Poor no more" from 12:05pm – 1:05pm. This movie explores the roots of poverty in Canada and examines promising international poverty reduction measures.

**For more information on these and other health topics, contact the Health Unit's Health ACTION Line at 1-800-660-5853 or 613-345-5685 or visit our website at [www.healthunit.org](http://www.healthunit.org).**

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