



HEALTH AND
WELLNESS

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



Message from the Minister

To the Honourable Frank H. Lewis
Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island

May It Please Your Honour:

It is my privilege to present the annual report of the Ministry of Health and Wellness for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Currie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doug Currie
Minister of Health and Wellness

Deputy Minister's Overview

The Honourable Doug Currie
Minister of Health and Wellness
Province of Prince Edward Island

Honourable Minister:

It is my pleasure to submit the 2013-2014 Annual Report for the Department of Health and Wellness. The information in this report, including the organizational structure, is presented as of March 31, 2014.

I am pleased with the progress we have made in the last year and look forward to meeting future challenges as we work together towards improving the health and wellness of all residents of Prince Edward Island.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Mayne', with a large, sweeping flourish above the name.

Michael Mayne
Deputy Minister, Health and Wellness

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The Year in Review

Expenditures

In 2013-2014, the Department of Health and Wellness operating budget was \$12.5 million.

Planning and Policy Development

In April 2013, the province passed the Narcotics Safety and Awareness Act (proclaimed in September 2013) with an aim to reduce instances of prescription drug misuse. This Act allows for monitoring and reporting of drugs as well as the ability to investigate potential problems. The department began work with the leadership of physicians, nurses and pharmacists to increase education and improve best practices regarding the prescribing of drugs most commonly abused.

In September 2013, Telehealth 811 Service was introduced in the Province, through a partnership arrangement with Nova Scotia. The service provided better access and better care to Islanders by allowing Islanders to talk to a registered nurse for health advice, when and where they need it, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The advice could include a recommendation to see a health care provider, to go to an emergency department, or other self-care options.

In November 2013, the province invested approximately \$1.2 million in immediate actions to address concerns of rising prescription drug abuse and appointed a new provincial Chief Mental Health and Addictions Officer charged with developing a long-term provincial strategy on mental health and addictions. To support her work, both an inter-departmental Internal Working Group and a Minister appointed Advisory Council on Mental Health and Addictions, were formed to offer advice and guidance on the development of a strategy.

Recruitment And Retention Efforts

The Department of Health and Wellness is committed to providing Islanders with better access to health care providers. As of March 2014, there were 246 physicians practicing in Prince Edward Island, including 92 family physicians (compared to 81 in 2006).

The PEI Family Medicine Residency Program, offered in conjunction with Dalhousie University, has provided a valuable resource for hiring new family physicians in the province. In this reporting year, two family medicine residents from the graduating class of 2014 signed commitments to remain in the province to practice.

In 2013-2014, there were 48 new registered nurses who received sponsorship funds to work in the health system with a return-in-service commitment. There was also a slight increase in licensed practical nurses hired in the system and a 32 percent increase in the number of newly hired resident care workers.

The new Family Medicine Sponsorship Program was implemented with applications accepted from second year medical students interested in practicing in PEI upon completion of their training. Successful applicants received financial support in exchange for a five-year commitment to practice in the province in the area of greatest need.

Enhancements to Public Health

The new Prince Edward Island Public Health Act was proclaimed in the legislature in September 2013. This legislation plays a critical role in the health and safety of Islanders and the changes were needed to accurately reflect and address modern public health issues and support the Chief Public Health Office in monitoring and maintaining public health in Prince Edward Island. This legislation helps to ensure that we are able to identify, respond to and report on communicable diseases affecting PEI's population, that food premises are licensed and serving safe food, that milk processing meets current standards and that we are properly investigating health hazards. The Notifiable Diseases and Conditions and Communicable Diseases Regulations were strengthened in February 2014.

Tanning Facility Regulations were introduced in September 2013 to prohibit individuals under the age of 18 from accessing tanning beds. In addition the requirements under the regulations increase awareness among all users about the dangers of exposure to ultraviolet radiation. According to the Prince Edward Island Cancer Trends Report (1980-2009) melanoma skin cancer is the most rapidly increasing cancer in the province, and the most common risk factor for melanoma is increased exposure to ultraviolet radiation. This new legislation will help protect Islanders from the adverse health effects of ultraviolet radiation.

In June 2013 the Chief Public Health Office (CPHO) conducted an investigation of two cases of red measles (measles) in PEI. Measles is a highly contagious viral illness that spreads easily through the air and is preventable through immunization. Vaccination for measles is part of PEI's routine Childhood Immunization Program and is offered free of charge to children at 12 and 18 months. The investigation revealed exposure in several Island schools and events. However the immunization rate against measles in the affected Island schools was very high at over 95% which prevented further transmission of the illness in PEI. The investigation and response were extensive with the involvement of several schools, community organizations, government departments and agencies.

In September 2013 PEI became the first province to offer Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Vaccine universally to boys (in Grade Six). Grade six girls in PEI have been offered this vaccine since 2007 as part of the school immunization program. HPV infection is associated with a high percentage of cancers of the mouth, nose and throat as well as cancers of the penis and anus in males. HPV also contributes to over 90 per cent of genital warts in both sexes. HPV causes cervical cancer in women. Studies have shown that the addition of boys to the HPV immunization program by age 12 increases prevention of ano-genital warts in both males and females and of cervical cancer among their female partners.

In February 2014 a full time Deputy Chief Public Health Officer was hired. This position will enhance the Division's ability to address gaps in the delivery of public health programs and services. In October 2013 the CPHO published the report Suicide and Mental Health in Prince Edward Island (2002-2011) in response to a resolution by the PEI Medical Society in 2011. The suggestion that the rate of suicide was increasing warranted review so that the province could develop a prevention strategy. The study revealed that although treated mental health disorders have increased, this has not been reflected in an increased trend in suicidality despite it being a major risk factor.

In addition to several gastrointestinal and influenza outbreak investigations throughout the year, in February 2014 the CPHO initiated an extensive investigation into a pertussis (whooping cough) outbreak. Waning immunity to pertussis contributes to the spread of the disease which is particularly dangerous to infants under one year of age and to women in the third trimester of pregnancy. Immunization against pertussis is part of PEI's routine Childhood Immunization Program and adults are offered the vaccine free of charge at Public Health Nursing (Health PEI).

In March 2014 Vital Statistics launched a new website to improve access to services and information for Islanders applying for services such as birth, marriage and death certificates. Information on how to access these services is provided as well as answers to the public's most frequent questions on vital event registrations.

Encouraging Healthy and Active Lives

In 2013-2014 go!PEI continued to offer more than 150 community based programs, challenges and educational opportunities for Islanders to participate in free of charge. Thanks to formal partnerships with the four largest municipalities, three regional councils and provincial organizations including the Healthy Eating Alliance and Island Trails, goPEI! delivered programs in over 40 different communities across PEI.

2013-14 Year in Review:

- 20 Learn to Run (5 km or 10 km) events were hosted in 17 different communities across PEI with more than 500 Islanders participating
- 15 Learn to cook programs were delivered across the province
- 7 Back to bicycling programs were offered
- 14 different hiking groups or events were created/offered throughout the year
- 20+ come try events were offered across PEI, including snowshoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, karate, fitness and Zumba. These events gave Islanders a chance to try different activities for free.
- go!PEI offered a number of community and workplace challenges over the year which had over 1000 Islanders participating. Challenges included the go! For 10 challenge, 150 minute challenge and Winteractive Challenge
- go!Play (after school) programs were offered in rural elementary and consolidated schools

go!Play:

Sport Recreation and Healthy Living Launched the after school time period project titled go!Play in partnership with the three regional sport and recreation councils. There were 19 schools and nearly 1,000 students involved in after school physical activity programs free of charge.

Regional Councils and Municipal Recreation continue to be funded through our CRSP and those partners continue to deliver professional recreation and physical activity programming at the local level across the Province.

Kid Sport:

The KidSport program provides funding to needy families making it possible for them to participate and to be active in a sport or recreation program. The Sport, Recreation and Healthy Living Division plays a significant role in the operational side of KidSport. Through the efforts of Sport PEI as the delivery agent and many corporate and fundraising events, \$158,742 was distributed to support 640 children to be active in sport in our province during 2013-2014.

Department of Health and Wellness Overview

The Department of Health and Wellness is responsible for providing quality health care to the citizens of Prince Edward Island.

The role of the Department is to:

- provide leadership in maintaining and improving the health and well-being of citizens;
- provide leadership in innovation and continuous improvement and to provide specific high quality administration and regulatory services to the health system and Islanders;
- provide policy, program and operational leadership respecting the Island health care system; and
- provide horizontal leadership and coordination in the implementation of Government's Healthy Living Strategy

The Department of Health and Wellness is managed by a departmental management committee comprised of the Deputy Minister and senior directors. This group is responsible for providing overall management direction to the department and for overseeing long-term strategic planning.

Organizational Structure (as of March 2014)



Chief Public Health Office

Public health is defined as the organized efforts of society to keep people healthy and prevent injury, illness and premature death. It is the combination of programs, services and policies that protect and promote health.

This division is responsible for delivery of health protection programs as legislated under the Public Health Act and collaborating with partners in areas of health promotion to proactively support Islanders in leading healthy lives. The division also monitors provincial health trends to help inform program and public health policy development.

Health Policy and Programs

This division provides policy and planning direction in various aspects of health care delivery that, in turn, assist the Minister in providing leadership, strategic direction and oversight of the health care system. The division is also responsible for health workforce planning through the actions of the Recruitment and Retention Secretariat.

Sport, Recreation and Healthy Living

The Sport, Recreation and Healthy Living Division is responsible for encouraging Islanders to be active through sport, recreation and other physical activity pursuits. This mandate is achieved through a wide variety of partnerships with sport, recreation and active living organizations throughout the province. The division provides grants and consultation services to a number of provincial, regional and community groups. As well, the division relates to a variety of provincial and federal government departments and national and interprovincial organizations both government and non-government.

Programs under this division include: Amateur Sport Support Program, Community Recreation Support Program, Chronic Disease Prevention, Living a Healthy Life, go!PEI and Federal/Provincial Sport Bilateral Agreements.

Finance and Corporate Management

Finance and Corporate Management supports and assists the Department of Health and Wellness in the areas of human resource management, financial management and communications for the department.

Appendix A

Expenditures and Revenue

	2013-2014 Budget Forecast	2013-2014 Budget Estimate
	\$	\$
EXPENDITURE		
MINISTER'S/DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE.....	412,200	408,900
HEALTH POLICY AND PROGRAMS.....	4,826,400	4,854,900
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE.....	3,744,000	3,892,300
SPORT, RECREATION AND HEALTHY LIVING.....	3,059,800	3,317,200
TOTAL EXPENDITURE.....	12,042,400	12,473,300
REVENUE		
HEALTH AND WELLNESS.....	1,057,500	1,061,300
TOTAL REVENUE.....	1,057,500	1,061,300

Expenditures and Revenue

	2013-2014 Budget Forecast	2013-2014 Budget Estimate
	\$	\$
MINISTER'S/DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE		
Minister's/Deputy Minister's Office		
Appropriations provided for the administration of the Minister's and the Deputy Minister's offices.		
Administration.....	29,200	27,200
Equipment.....	-	1,500
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	6,000	5,500
Salaries.....	350,300	349,500
Travel and Training.....	26,700	25,200
Total Minister's/Deputy Minister's Office	412,200	408,900
TOTAL MINISTER'S/DEPUTY MINISTER'S OFFICE	412,200	408,900
HEALTH POLICY AND PROGRAMS		
Health Policy and Programs		
Appropriations provided to support the department in carrying out its corporate management responsibilities in the areas of planning and evaluation, health policy development and analysis and legislation.		
Administration.....	32,200	40,800
Equipment.....	3,100	10,000
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	54,900	23,300
Professional and Contract Services.....	293,400	139,500
Salaries.....	960,800	945,900
Travel and Training.....	35,100	37,500
Grants.....	1,578,800	1,528,800
Total Health Policy and Programs	2,958,300	2,725,800
Health Recruitment and Retention		
Appropriations provided for the Health Recruitment and Retention Secretariat to provide workforce planning and support the development and implementation of recruitment and retention strategies for physicians, nurses and other healthcare professionals experiencing shortages.		
Administration.....	15,300	17,200
Debt.....	5,000	-
Equipment.....	600	4,500
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	34,000	85,700
Professional and Contract Services.....	87,700	46,300
Salaries.....	916,300	967,600
Travel and Training	20,700	20,700
Grants.....	616,200	903,700
Total Health Recruitment and Retention.....	1,695,800	2,045,700

Expenditures and Revenue

	2013-2014 Budget Forecast \$	2013-2014 Budget Estimate \$
Chief Mental Health and Addictions Office		
Appropriations provided for the administration of the Office of the Chief Mental Health and Addictions Officer.		
Administration.....	1,100	3,700
Equipment.....	200	500
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	200	1,300
Salaries.....	119,900	73,900
Travel and Training.....	900	4,000
Grants.....	50,000	-
Total Chief Mental Health and Addictions Office.....	172,300	83,400
TOTAL HEALTH POLICY AND PROGRAMS.....	4,826,400	4,854,900
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE		
Chief Public Health Office		
Appropriations provided for administration of the <i>Public Health Act</i> , supervision of provincial public health programs, immunization programs, disease surveillance and communicable disease control.		
Administration.....	20,600	18,700
Equipment.....	700	-
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	1,097,300	1,160,300
Professional and Contract Services.....	268,300	54,800
Salaries.....	675,800	997,900
Travel and Training	25,700	25,700
Total Chief Public Health Office.....	2,088,400	2,257,400
Epidemiology and Reproductive Care		
Appropriations provided to monitor and report to the public on Health status and trends in the Province and to support evidence-based decisions and continuous improvement throughout the health system.		
Administration.....	5,300	7,800
Equipment.....	2,800	2,400
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	7,200	7,200
Professional and Contract Services.....	24,400	25,000
Salaries.....	349,200	370,500
Travel and Training	4,800	6,700
Total Epidemiology and Reproductive Care.....	393,700	419,600

Expenditures and Revenue

	2013-2014 Budget Forecast \$	2013-2014 Budget Estimate \$
Environmental Health Services		
Appropriations provided for the services to educate, consult and inspect under the <i>Public Health Act</i> in area such as food protection, occupational health, accommodations and slaughter houses. Inspection Services also includes enforcement under <i>Tobacco Sales and Access Act</i> and <i>Smoke-Free places Act</i> .		
Administration.....	14,400	13,300
Equipment.....	2,800	2,800
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	11,800	12,400
Professional and Contract Services.....	85,900	68,400
Salaries.....	706,500	709,100
Travel and Training	60,100	60,100
Total Environmental Health Services.....	881,500	866,100
Vital Statistics		
Appropriations provided for the Office of Vital Statistics which is responsible for the collection, registration and maintenance of vital event information for the Province, including: births, deaths, marriages, adoptions, divorces, stillbirths and changes of name.		
Administration.....	18,200	12,300
Equipment.....	100	400
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	21,500	9,000
Professional and Contract Services.....	9,700	2,500
Salaries.....	327,100	319,300
Travel and Training	3,800	5,700
Total Vital Statistics.....	380,400	349,200
TOTAL CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE.....	3,744,000	3,892,300
SPORT, RECREATION AND HEALTHY LIVING		
Sport Recreation and Healthy Living		
Appropriations provided for development, implementation, delivery and monitoring of programs and service in the area of sport, recreation, active living and disease prevention.		
Administration.....	11,100	13,300
Equipment.....	1,300	2,100
Materials, Supplies and Services.....	9,300	5,500
Salaries.....	580,600	690,400
Travel and Training.....	18,700	36,500
Grants.....	2,438,800	2,569,400
Total, Sport, Recreation and Healthy Living.....	3,059,800	3,317,200
TOTAL SPORT, RECREATION AND HEALTHY LIVING.....	3,059,800	3,317,200
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELLNESS.....	12,042,400	12,473,300