

Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Health and Human Services

Public Health Unit

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Jodi Guilmette, General Manager, Health and Human Services
Date: December 9, 2024
Subject: Volunteer Citizen Appointments to the Chatham-Kent Board of Health

Recommendation

It is recommended that:

1. Evan Rogers and Stephanie Harper be appointed to the Chatham-Kent Board of Health for a four-year term effective January 1, 2025.

Background

The Chatham-Kent Board of Health is made up of four current members of Council, appointed by Council following each municipal election; two citizen appointments; one provincial appointment; and one Indigenous representative.

Comments

Historically, the Board of Health has recommended that citizen appointments be for four-year periods that straddle the municipal election cycle in order for continuity to be maintained in the event that all municipal appointees are replaced after an election. Thus, citizen appointees selected now would serve until December 31, 2028.

Recruitment for the two provincial appointee positions was conducted via media release, posting information to the Municipal website, communication through social media, and through community partners. Applications were accepted from July 2, 2024, through August 8, 2024.

Applications were reviewed and scored against a matrix that included prior board experience, community connections, and skills and competencies in the areas of leadership, collaboration, administration, finance, communications, strategic planning, governance, risk management, working with other levels of government, and experience working with priority populations. The top four candidates were interviewed on October 2, 2024.

The interview panel included: the Chair, Chatham-Kent Board of Health; General Manager, Health and Human Services; Acting Director, Chatham-Kent Public Health; and the Executive Assistant, Health and Human Services.

The following individuals were the top two candidates and were unanimously recommended by the panel to sit from January 2025 through December 2028 as the Community Representatives on the Board of Health.

Name		Related Education/Experience
1.	Stephanie Harper	Finance, government relations, strategic planning, leadership.
2.	Evan Rogers	Social work, board experience, governance, health & social services, working with priority populations.

Council Term Priorities

This report supports the following Council Term Priorities:

			
Deliver Excellent Service	Promote Safety & Well-Being	Grow Our Community	Ensure Environmental Sustainability

Consultation

The Municipal Clerk’s office was consulted on the application process.

Communication

All four candidates interviewed were informed of the outcome of this report. Public communication will take place through the inclusion of this report on the Council agenda. The Municipal website will be updated to reflect the names of the new citizen appointees.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice (DEIJ)

Chatham-Kent Public Health uses an equity lens to inform all areas of its business, including recruitment. Having diverse representation in the Board of Health is key to ensuring fairness in the governance of the Health Unit. To remove potential barriers in the recruitment process, application forms were available both online and in hard copy at Municipal Services Centres throughout Chatham-Kent. Applications were accepted in both electronic and hard copy format. Advertisement of the positions took place in a variety of mediums and over an extended period to allow interested individuals ample time to obtain and complete an application form.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications with this recommendation report.

Prepared by: Jodi Guilmette, General Manager, Health and Human Services

Attachment(s): None