

Howard Shapiro

Dr Howard Shapiro is Associate Medical Officer of Health in the Healthy Environments directorate of Toronto Public Health. He obtained his MD from Queen's University and is a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Community Medicine. At Toronto Public Health he provides medical advice and leadership on issues of environmental health and food safety. He has been involved in responding to emergency situations such as a rabid puppy at a busy flea market, an apartment fire that forced the prolonged evacuation of all its residents, the flood of a beach with overflow from a combined sewer and the explosion of a propane facility located adjacent to a residential area. Prior to his position in Toronto he was Associate Medical Officer of Health in Peel and his work focused mainly on communicable disease issues. In Peel he helped create and supervised the health department's first dedicated emergency response position. He also participated in the department's coordinated response to suspicious packages arising from the anthrax letters discovered in the United States. Dr. Shapiro has also been a member of the Communicable Disease Subcommittee of the PIDAC (the Provincial Infectious Disease Advisory Committee) and is currently the chair of the OMA section of Public Health Physicians.