

April 20, 2011

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Health Canada  
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture  
Postal Locator: 0906C  
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

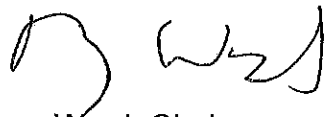
Dear Minister Aglukkaq:

On March 9, 2011 the Simcoe Muskoka District Board of Health passed the following motion in support of the Sudbury & District Board of Health Resolution #55-10 on Childhood Immunization:

"THAT the Board of Health of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit support the Sudbury & District Board of Health Resolution # 55-10 on Childhood Immunization as a demonstration of our commitment to achieving the best possible immunization coverage for all Canadians."

Attached is a copy of the Simcoe Muskoka District Board of Health motion and resolution of the Sudbury & District Board of Health. The Board recognizes the importance of immunization as one of the most effective and cost-effective intervention we have to prevent vaccine preventable diseases and protect the health of the population.

Sincerely,



Barry Ward, Chair  
Board of Health

BW:mk

Att.

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## Motion to Support a National Immunization Registry and Reporting Legislation

**Update:** New

**Date:** March 9, 2011

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### **Issue:**

In a communication dated November 23, 2010 to the Honorable Leona Aglukkag, Federal Minister of Health, and copied to all Ontario Boards of Health, the Sudbury & District Board of Health informed the Board of resolution #55-10 that they passed respecting the need for a national immunization registry and legislation requiring the reporting of all publicly funded immunizations by health care providers.

### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Board of Health of the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit support the Sudbury & District Board of Health Resolution # 55-10 on Childhood Immunization as a demonstration of our commitment to achieving the best possible immunization coverage for all Canadians.

### **Current Facts:**

RE: Childhood immunization

At its meeting on November 18, 2010, the Sudbury & District Board of Health carried the appended resolution.

### **Background:**

Legislation regarding the reporting of all childhood immunizations and the administration of all publicly funded vaccines, and a national immunization registry are three important concepts for the Board of Health to support. They are the most critical missing pieces in an otherwise stellar vaccine program that is arguably the most effective and cost-effective intervention we have to prevent vaccine preventable diseases and protect the health of the population. The legislation and registry advocated for in this resolution would go a long way toward making VPD programs much more efficient and targeted as necessary.

SIMCOE MUSKOKA DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT  
**Briefing Note**

**Contacts:**

Bill Mindell, Director, Clinical Service	Ext. 7375
Laurie Stanford, Manager, Vaccine Preventable Disease	Ext. 7233
Dr. Colin Lee, Associate Medical Officer of Health	Ext. 7235



Sudbury & District

**Health Unit**

**Service de  
santé publique**

*Make it a  
Healthy  
Day!*

November 23, 2010

*Via Electronic Mail*

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Health  
Health Canada  
Brooke Claxton Building, Tunney's Pasture  
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*Visez Santé  
dès  
aujourd'hui!*

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Dear Minister:

**Re: Childhood Immunization**

At its meeting on November 18, 2010, the Sudbury & District Board of Health carried the following resolution #55-10:

*WHEREAS immunization is one of the most effective public health strategies, saving more lives in Canada in the last 50 years than any other single health intervention; and*

*WHEREAS immunization coverage rates are important indicators of health, estimating the proportion of individuals who have completed a recommended immunization series; and*

*WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) require that Boards of Health undertake activities to reduce or eliminate the burden of vaccine preventable diseases; and*

*WHEREAS in the absence of mandatory immunization reporting by all health care providers, public health has inaccurate immunization coverage information upon which to base important vaccine preventable disease program decisions;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health advocate to the federal government for a national vaccine registry to collect, analyse (by geographic and socio-demographic variables), share and report immunization information, particularly in early childhood; and*

*FURTHER THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health urge the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) to develop legislation, beyond the Day Nurseries Act, that assists public health units in monitoring the vaccine coverage rates of infants, toddlers and preschool children; and*

*An Accredited Teaching Health Unit  
Centre agréé d'enseignement en santé*

Letter  
Re: Childhood Immunization  
November 23, 2010

*FURTHER THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health urge the MOHLTC to develop legislation that requires the reporting of all publicly funded immunizations provided by health care providers; and*

*THAT a copy of this motion be forwarded to the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, and all Ontario boards of health.*

Thank you for your attention to this important public health issue aimed at achieving the best possible immunization coverage for all Canadians.

Yours sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC  
Medical Officer of Health/Chief Executive Officer

c.: Dr. David Butler-Jones, Chief Public Health Officer, Public Health Agency of Canada  
The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
Dr. Arlene King, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Connie Uetrecht, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association  
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies  
All Ontario Boards of Health