



Municipal Liaison Program Report 2025

Program Overview

Working with local municipalities is an essential part of effective public health practice, and collaboration between municipal and public health staff supports positive outcomes in the community. There are 17 municipalities across Huron and Perth counties, including two upper-tier, two single-tier, and 13 lower-tier. In 2025, Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) continued implementing a structured approach to collaborating with municipalities. In addition to ongoing collaboration, such as participating in local Community Safety and Well-Being tables, the municipal liaison approach enables HPPH to:

Establish or strengthen relationships between municipal and public health staff.	Improve understanding of local community context.	Increase internal HPPH collaboration to support coordination and reduce duplication.	Support municipalities in how they interact with public health.
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Municipal Alignments

In 2025, there were 264* municipal alignments initiated by municipalities or by HPPH, compared to 148 municipal alignments in 2024. These alignments encompassed various interactions, from informal discussions and meetings, to defined outcomes (e.g., council delegations, providing feedback on municipal documents). While some alignments remain informational, others have sparked larger initiatives and have evolved beyond an initial discussion. Highlights from 2025 include:

75 actions from alignment meetings	46 meetings with municipal staff	16 feedback documents submitted	13 presentations and delegations	2 letters of support provided
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* This count includes alignments and communications as identified by the Municipal Liaisons and is not representative of every interaction with municipalities across all health unit programs and services.

“Seeing the municipal liaison strategy, and its various elements come together has provided an anchor point for a variety of our health promotion activities. Whether it’s alignment meetings, or monitoring municipal correspondence, keeping in tune with our local community helps inform opportunities for local action.” ~ Public Health Manager



2025 Alignment Outcomes: Snapshot

Built environment

- Submitted feedback and delivered council delegations to County of Huron, Central Huron, and Bluewater in relation to their Official Plans.
- Submitted a comprehensive Parks and Trails Assessment Report for Goderich.
- Commented on over 30 site plan and development-related planning documents across North Perth, Stratford, and Bluewater.
- Provided letters of support for municipal infrastructure and recreation projects in Goderich and Stratford.



Substance use prevention

- Reviewed and commented on municipal alcohol policies from North Huron, St. Marys, Goderich, and Morris-Turnberry.
- Reviewed and provided recommendations to update County of Huron's smoke-free by-law to reflect restriction of vaping and waterpipe use, including a delegation to County Council summarizing proposed changes. Continued to advise on recommendations for other local smoke-free by-laws to include restrictions around vaping and waterpipe use.
- Supported North Perth with the relocation of the Listowel community sharps kiosk.
- Provided surveillance reports to municipal staff on Huron Perth Drug Strategy.



Mental health promotion

- Provided council delegations on social connection to County of Huron and North Perth and presented to Stratford Public Library Staff and North Perth's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Advisory Committee.
- Invited by North Perth to present about social connection to the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario Zone 2.
- Attended South Huron's workshop focused on supporting international agri-food workers.



Climate change

- Supported County of Huron in their Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment.



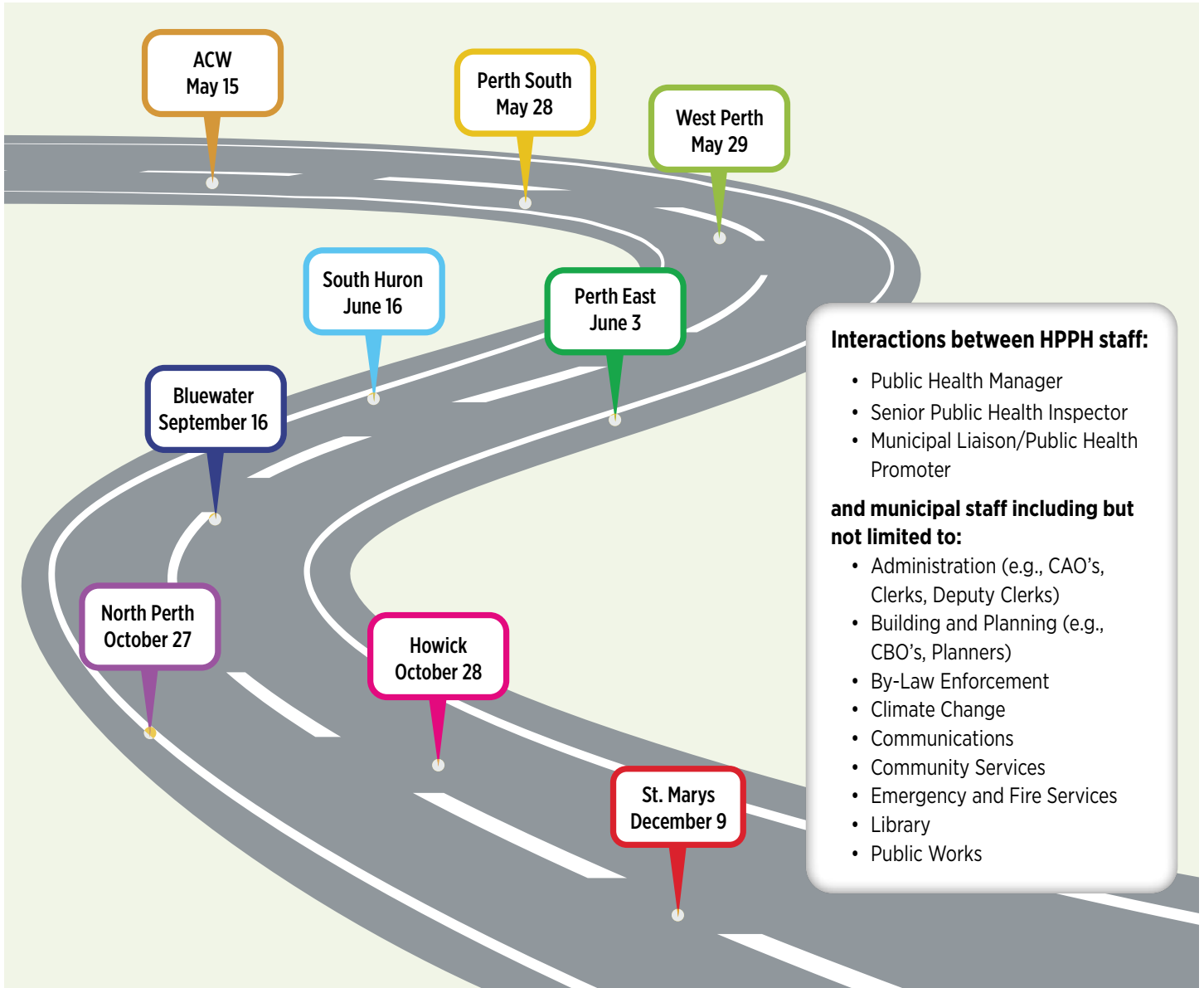
Injury prevention

- Finalized and produced a summary of Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) laws from the 11 jurisdictional road authorities within Huron County.





Nine Alignment Meetings in 2025



"I think these meetings work well and I appreciate the collaboration. It's great we're taking it to this level." ~ Municipal Staff

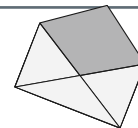


Services and Supports for Municipalities

- Share evidence-informed interventions
- Write letters of support for grants
- Complete a Healthy Parks Assessment
- Provide regulatory guidance, inspections, and enforcement for legislated public health requirements, (e.g., food premises, rabies)
- Improve [social connection](#)
- Review municipal policies (e.g., [Municipal Alcohol Policy](#), Smoking and Vaping By-laws)
- Provide feedback on municipal plans (e.g., Official Plans, Transportation Plans, Recreation Plans).
- Support municipalities with community sharps kiosks
- Provide harm reduction presentations (e.g., naloxone, safe handling of sharps)
- Recognize public health-related events (e.g., Pride, International Overdose Awareness Day, National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women).

Contact us

municipal@hpph.ca



Areas of Shared Interest



Built and Natural Environment



Substance Use Prevention (alcohol, smoke, vape)



Healthy Aging



Anti-racism, Equity and Diversity



Mobility, Road Safety and Active Transportation



Health Harms from Climate Change



Socially Connected and Inclusive Communities



Safe Food and Water

“Thank you again for the comments and suggestions you provided on the first draft of the Official Plan document. Your review was very thorough, and your feedback was both thoughtful and extremely helpful. Many of your suggested edits and modifications have been incorporated into the second draft.”
~ Municipal Planner



Huron Perth
Public Health



www.hpph.ca



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