Community Safety and Well-Being Newsletter – Issue 3 June 2025

This newsletter contains news and information on events relevant to the Timiskaming district including Temagami, updates on working groups, and reports & funding opportunities related to Timiskaming's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. If you have anything to promote and would like to include it in upcoming issues, please send your submissions in to cswb@neph.ca.

News and Events

LOCAL

Municipal Road Safety Forum



The Timiskaming Road Safety Coalition, in conjunction with the CSWB, held their Municipal Road Safety Forum on April 16, 2025. Many municipal representatives were in attendance and had the opportunity to hear about road safety initiatives in our district. Topics included Vison Zero, Active School Travel, Off-Road Safety, Micro-Mobility Devices, and Timiskaming Traffic Concerns. Attendees also had the opportunity to interact with each other and to brainstorm solutions to other road safety issues. The event was well received and the CSWB was happy to support such a worthwhile and important forum. The link for the forum final report can be found here.

Timiskaming Ontario Health Team Webinar - NEW DATE



Community Safety & Well-Being will be hosting an upcoming webinar on June 19th, 2025 called "Get To Know the Timiskaming Ontario Health Team." It is an opportunity for municipal council members & staff, as well as municipal agencies, to learn more about the TOHT and ask any questions they might have. Presenters include Kerry Schubert-Mackey - TOHT Transformation Lead, Dr. Meaghan Alexander – TOHT Primary Care Network Council Co-Chair, Sherwin Knight – TOHT Community Citizen Partner, and Mark Wilson – City of Temiskaming Shores Municipal Councilor. To register for this event, please visit the Eventbrite registration page found here.

Homelessness Education Campaign



The CSWB is launching a homelessness education campaign to help inform the community on the realities of homelessness. With so much misinformation circulating in our area, the campaign will focus on dispelling the myths of being homeless and remind people that we all deserve respect and dignity, no matter our situation. The homelessness education campaign will include ads appearing across the district through radio, newsprint, posters, billboards, and other media.

Gender-Based Violence Situational Assessment Webinar



A webinar is being hosted on Tuesday, June 17th @ 12 pm by Northeastern Public Health staff to share the results of a situational assessment on gender-based violence. Join in to learn about this important topic area, hear about population heath data and the situation in Timiskaming District. For more info or to register, contact Lorna Desmarais

at Lorna.Desmarais@neph.ca

Help ensure Ontario's Bill 17 protects efficiency and affordability

Bill 17, officially named the Protect Ontario by Building Faster and Smarter Act, 2025, is legislation in Ontario that aims to expedite development and infrastructure projects. The bill also includes amendments to the Building Code Act, potentially affecting municipal green building standards and ensuring consistency across the province. Check here to see the full bill and click below for an advocacy alert from the Canadian Public Health Association.

Advocacy Alert: Ontario Bill 17

Avoiding skin damage from UV rays is crucial to living a healthy lifestyle

Want to protect your community from harmful sun exposure this summer while still encouraging outdoor events and activities? The Save Your Skin Foundation (SYSF) is offering a free opportunity to help! SYSF is a Canadian, non-profit organization dedicated to fighting skin cancer. Through their "Project Sun Care," they are providing free sunscreen dispensers with sunscreen for public outdoor areas, for a 2-year term. These dispensers will make sunscreen accessible to everyone in your community! Last year, NEPH supported two communities—Timmins and Cochrane—who participated with great success. NEPH is here to help with sun safety resources, education, and social media support too. Contact Dana Robertson at dana.robertson@neph.ca for help with this! Click the link below to find out more about the Save Your Skin Foundation.

Workgroup Updates

The CSWB has 3 working groups to support implementation of the plan. Here is a summary of items they are working on. If you are interested in becoming part of a workgroup or would like more information, contact cswb@neph.ca.

- CSWB will be hosting the rescheduled webinar to inform on the Timiskaming
 Ontario Health Team on June 19th. This will be a panel discussion format to update partners on the TOHT programs and initiatives.
- Development of the 211 Timiskaming region portal focused on older adults is complete and can be found at https://timiskaming.211north.ca/.
- Timiskaming Ontario Health Team is looking to onboard community citizen representatives, especially from the rural areas of the district.
- The By-Names List numbers have dropped over the past few months and there has been housing found for 5 individuals.
 - A referral pathway has been created and is being delivered to area hospitals, doctors' offices, stores, etc. to help determine next steps for unsheltered people.
 - A Homelessness Education Campaign will be launched soon, focusing on increasing awareness, respect, and dignity of homeless people as well as dispelling myths.

Reports & Funding Opportunities

REPORTS

The Timiskaming District Vital Signs Report: The Temiskaming Foundation

Vital Signs® is an evidence-based report used to measure the health and well-being of communities across Canada. It identifies trends, starts conversations, and helps communities act on local priorities. The goal of Vital Signs® is to offer a readable and engaging report that encourages dialogue and action from all segments of a community, including residents, organizations, institutions, and political leaders. Vital Signs® is proudly supported by the Community Safety & Well-Being plan.

Community Placemaking Micro-Grant Evaluation Report

Community placemaking involves creating or enhancing a public space in a way that fosters connection and makes the space more useful, inclusive, engaging, beautiful, safe, or fun for people. Local public health promoted the Community Placemaking Microgrant Pilot Project to community partners in the fall of 2023 and received 36 applications, many of which were from local municipalities. We were able to fund 14 of these amazing projects and are excited to see the results out in our local communities. For more information on these projects or to request a copy of the report, contact Jeff Manners at jeff.manners@neph.ca.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Early support grant for sustainable affordable housing projects/Soutien précoce des projets de logement abordable à haut rendement énergétique

Develop deliverables required for funding applications when applying for a sustainable affordable housing project. Access an early-stage planning grant. Applications are accepted year-round, though this offer will close when all funding has been allocated.

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Indigenous Youth Roots creation grants: Grassroot youth groups/collectives (comprised of Indigenous youth ages 15-29) are eligible to apply for funding to support community programs and projects while receiving innovative mentorship, training and capacity-building opportunities. Funding will be provided to projects/groups that seek to create impactful community change and increase the wellness, resiliency and engagement of Indigenous youth. Applications will be received between July 1st and August 7th.

Creation Grants - Indigenous Youth Roots

The Temiskaming Foundation Grants: These grants provide funding to help with a variety of organizational needs. Charities registered with the CRA, qualified donees and organizations sponsored by qualified donees can apply for these grants.

The support is specific to your needs. This can range from program and project funding to material purchases and more. Organizations that meet the eligibility criteria can apply for a grant of up to \$3,000. Grant application deadlines are September 30th with the exception of the School Nutrition Fund, which closes June 20th.

Grant Funding