



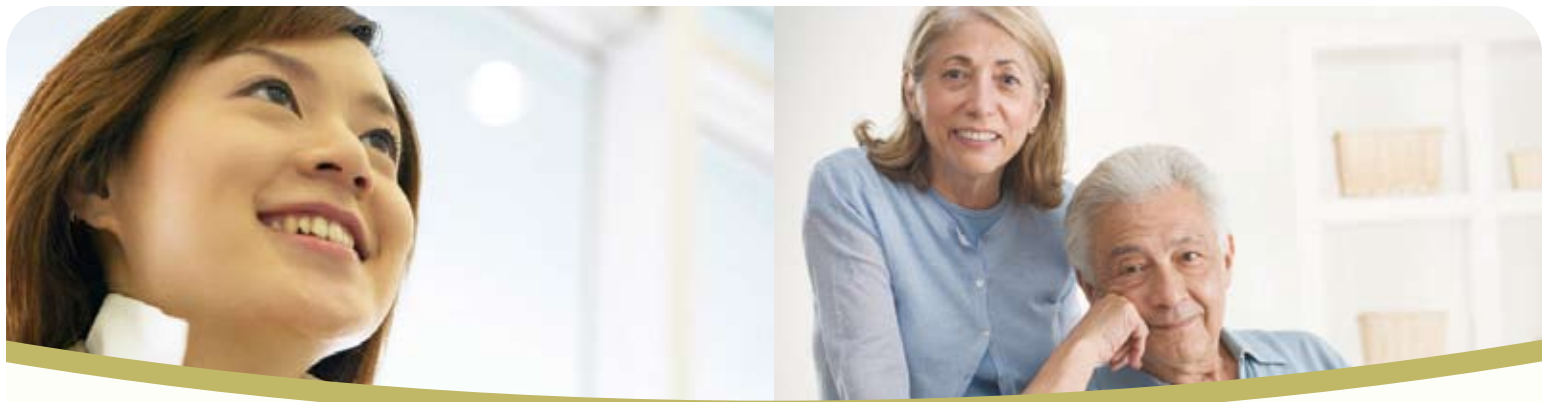
# 2006

## Annual Report

**EOHU**  
Eastern Ontario  
Health Unit



**BSEO**  
Bureau de santé  
de l'est de l'Ontario



# A Message from Dr. Paul





The year 2006 marked the end of an era with Dr. Bourdeau as Medical Officer of Health.

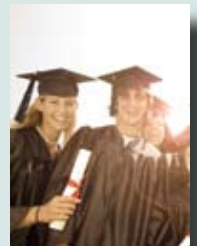
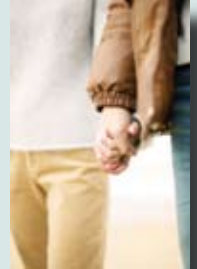
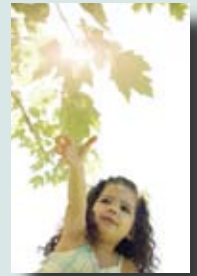
I became Acting Medical Officer of Health in January of 2007 and have been impressed with his legacy of quality programs and services that the Eastern Ontario Health Unit provides to its constituent population.

Guided by a new 2005 strategic plan and direction here are some of the highlights of 2006:

- The Health Unit was committed to children and continued with programs focusing on prenatal health and education, and postnatal programs including our Watch Me Grow clinics and Speech and Language Services.
- The Health Unit demonstrated a commitment to the issue of prevention with a special focus on schools and students. We administered the following prevention programs:
  - handwashing
  - nutrition education
  - TV turn-off campaign
  - tobacco prevention/ education programs
- The Health Unit focused on the promotion of healthier communities. Activities included flu clinics, food safety programs, West Nile virus surveillance and the promotion of Breastfeeding Friendly environments.

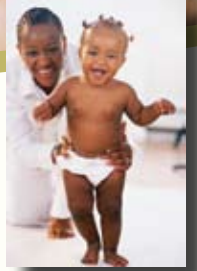
Finally the Eastern Ontario Health Unit continued to work with important community partners and stakeholders.

Paul Roumeliotis, MD, CM, FRCP(C)  
Medical Officer of Health (A)





# Healthy Children





### Watch Me Grow

In 2006, a total of 8,207 parents received information through the Watch Me Grow program. The Health Unit was able to support the opening of 17 new daycares in the EOHU region.

### Healthy Babies Healthy Children

In 2006, 5,381 home visits were made to families in the Home Visiting Program. Approximately 1,401 postpartum families received home visits.

### Preschool Speech Program

In 2006, 621 children referred to our speech services, a 31% increase from 2005. The average age of identification/referral was 22 months.

### Early Childhood Development Initiatives

At least 2,000 copies of the 2006 Calendar featuring *Koko the Ever Cautious Koala* were distributed to parents, childcare providers and community agencies. The marketing firm responsible for developing the calendar received a platinum award for the illustration and graphic design of this resource.

### Reproductive Health

Since our participation in the University of Ryerson Project on "Integrated Maternal Care for the Rural and Remote", the Health Unit has continued to pursue communication with local community partners to investigate strategies in the promotion of prenatal classes and breastfeeding support.





# Healthy Students





### It's OK To Be Different!

In 2006, the *It's OK To Be Different* program was held in 62 schools, and was presented to a total of 1,236 students.

### B.A.B.E.S.

In 2006, the B.A.B.E.S. program was held in 84 schools and was presented to a total of 2,221 students.

### Sexual Health

Our services within the *Young Adult Centre* (YAC) were well utilized by teens in 2006. The Health Unit's participation at parent council meetings, which provided a venue for discussion of healthy policies and awareness of our programs, was well received and much appreciated.

### Energize

In September, the *Energize* program was launched in schools and has so far proven to be a success. Graphic tools such as slogans, program binders, training modules for teachers, sample food policies and classroom physical activity cards were developed as part of the program, which is run by nine staff members of the EOHU.

### Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Throughout the 2005-2006 school year, surveillance was done in 63 area elementary schools. The immunization coverage rate obtained for DPT-P and MMR was 88%, compared to 78% in the previous fiscal year. It was the first time that the EOHU completed surveillance in the elementary school population.

### Travel Program

In 2006, Health Line answered 1,071 more travel information calls than in 2005. This also resulted in an increase of 771 travellers attending our office immunization clinics (3,764 travellers in 2006 compared to 2,993 in 2005).





# Healthy Communities

## Health Line

Through Health Line, the Health Unit responded to 20,444 calls in 2006, a decrease of 84 calls from 2005. The majority of calls were concerning:

- travel information (4,461 calls)
- postnatal referrals (3,081 calls)
- child health (2,235 calls)
- rabies (1,940 calls)

It is also interesting to note that calls regarding sexually transmitted disease (including HIV/AIDS) decreased dramatically from 663 in 2005 to 83 in 2006.

## Integrated Public Health Information System

This year saw the first complete year of Integrated Public Health Information System (iPHIS) data. Throughout the year, there was an ongoing occurrence of upgrades and supplemental training.

## Emergency Management and Preparedness

The EOHU management team participated in two internal exercises, where use of the IMS system was introduced. The year 2007 will ensure ongoing revision and enhancement to our current health emergency and business continuity plans.

## TB Program

TB activity remains low in our jurisdiction. This year, we continued to focus our attention on surveillance and education for health care providers.

## Needle Exchange Program

This year brought about the first successful year with the NEP. This success was in great part due to a partnership developed with OATC. Limitations are that only the Cornwall/Glengarry area have benefited from this venture. In the future, we will further expand the reaches of this program.

## Eat Smart!

This year, three hospitals were given *Eat Smart!* certification, with a fourth in Alexandria showing interest. Twelve schools were either certified or have formed nutrition committees whose aims are to become certified.





## Rabies Clinics

Our annual Rabies Clinics continued to be successful this year. They facilitated access to rabies vaccines for 2,965 dogs and cats.

## Cervical Screening

The Health Unit held two cervical screening clinics in partnership with Centre de santé de l'Estrie. In total, 23 women were screened.

## Food Premises Inspections

In 2006, the Health Unit conducted 91% of routine inspections. A total of 2,213 inspections and 416 re-inspections were conducted. The Health Unit also conducted 100% HACCP audits in high-risk food premises were also conducted.

## Food Safety Certification Program

The demand for the *Food Safety Certification Workshop* increased considerably this year. Overall, 683 food handlers were certified, showing an increase of 346 from 2005. The spring campaign in high schools led to 251 certifications, an increase of 59 from 2005.

## Sexual Health

The total number of STIs reported in 2006 is very similar to that seen in 2005. Chlamydia remains the most frequently reported STI, with young women aged 15 to 24 accounting for about half of the total number of cases investigated in 2006.

## Flu Clinics

This year, 20,061 residents were immunized for influenza through EOHU community clinics and weekly office clinics; this is a slight decrease from last year's total of 23,504. This includes approximately 5,542 children up to age 18 compared to 6,867 in 2005.

## Tobacco

The major highlight in 2006 was the enactment of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*. This legislation prohibits smoking in all enclosed public areas and workplaces in Ontario. EOHU staff worked diligently to promote the SFOA and educate the public about the changes.



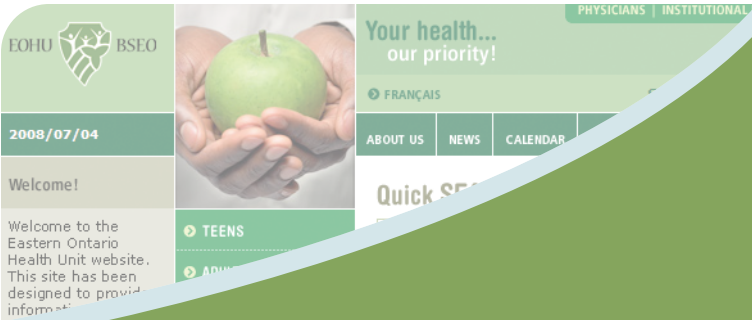


# Healthy Workplaces

## Workplace Health Promotion Program

The response to the launch of the *Workplace Health Award* was greater than anticipated for its first year. A total of 12 workplaces completed an application for the award. Eight workplaces received the bronze award and one workplace received the silver award. Several other workplaces have indicated their interest in the award and their intent to apply.





# Administration

## EOHU Website

The new EOHU Website was officially launched in January and February. When promoting the Website to target audiences, the Health Unit attempted to promote the sections that were specifically relevant to the targeted group.

## New EOHU Corporate Identity

The communication sector developed a new corporate identity for the Health Unit. This included a modernization of the EOHU logo, the selection of new corporate colours, the choice of two new corporate fonts, and an update of the Health Unit slogan. The team also developed a graphic standards guideline, as well as writing guidelines, to ensure consistency in work produced.

## Our Employees

As of December 2006, there were 209 active employees. During the year, 45 new (or replacement) employees were hired.

## Our Volunteers

This year, the Health Unit was fortunate to have the help of 172 volunteers who contributed 9,089 hours of work. As always, we are grateful for their time and effort.

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# 2006 Expenditures/Revenue

