

INDEPENDENT PROCESS

LAMBTON COMMUNITY

OBSERVER

HEALTH STUDY

Report #23

October 15, 2014

Lambton County Residents:

The Lambton Community Health Study Board meets to study environmental effects on the health of Lambton County residents. The goal is to develop a process to determine health outcomes from environmental exposures. The ultimate goal is to complete a scientific health study for our community.

The Lambton Health Study Board is at a crossroads concerning the community health study that is being proposed. At this point in time, the Sarnia Lambton Environmental Association has pledged funding for 30% of the total estimated cost of the study and Phase III which is \$5 million dollars. Funding requests are being presented to the Federal and Provincial Governments during October and November. The SLEA funding is dependent on these two levels of Government committing their share in actual dollars. If the funding does not materialize, the Lambton Health Study project will be terminated.

Many years of meetings and planning, telephone surveys, public open houses, computerized surveys, and a scientific literary study will be for nought. Several partnerships have been forged which could have been very advantageous for the Lambton Health Study. Up to this point, the Provincial Government has supported the Study with \$50,000 and the Federal Government has contributed professional time in lieu of actual dollars. It would be unfortunate that the funding needed to move forward with Phase III not be forthcoming.

Committee members have devoted many hours to make this Study a reality. Four major areas of concern were identified for inclusion in the Study. Topics are: exposure/biomonitoring/risk assessment; cancer; respiratory health and reproductive health. Are Lambton County residents less healthy because of their past and present exposures to environmental emissions? This should be a public health priority.

Hopefully, funding will be secured and Phase III of the Health Study will proceed with the continual updating to the community. If the Study identifies any issues, the Board commits to finding solutions for any health impacts and dispel any negative community perceptions.

Any questions, please contact

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