

INDEPENDENT PROCESS

LAMBTON COMMUNITY

OBSERVER

HEALTH STUDY

Report #17

November 3, 2011

Lambton County Residents:

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

A very informative meeting was held which included presentations from Dr. Sheryl Bartlett and Dr. Pierre Band from Health Canada, Dr. Eric Holowaty and Dr. John McLaughlin from the University of Toronto with Dr. Ray Copes, Scientific Director of Public Health Ontario joining the meeting via teleconference. The goal for the meeting was to help the Health Study Board develop a strategy to move forward with the Lambton County Health Study.

Dr. Holowaty and Dr. McLaughlin are involved with the Ontario Health Study at www.ontariohealthstudy.ca and would encourage Sarnia/Lambton residents to participate. The Lambton Health Study Board feels that valuable information about cancer could be collected and used locally if a number of residents would access the Ontario Health Study.

Dr. Band from Health Canada has indicated that he would like to attend the local Technical Committee meetings. His interest was greeted with enthusiasm.

Chrystal Palleschi, Epidemiologist for the Lambton Health Services Department, developed a grant proposal on behalf of the Board for the Ontario Community Environment Fund through the Ministry of the Environment. The Board is hopeful that funds will be received so we can begin the study which will determine our exposure to harmful substances.

The Board thanks Jim Burns, former chairman of the Health Study Board, for his dedication and loyalty in his leadership role for the past many months. Keith McMillan, representative for Sarnia Communications, Energy and Paper Workers Union, will be the new Chair and Anne Marie Gillis, representative for the City of Sarnia, will be the Vice-Chair.

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