



PUBLIC HEALTH 2024 UPDATE AND 2025 AREAS OF FOCUS

Presented to
Committee of the Whole

Presented by
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PURPOSE



1. Council as Board of Health
2. Public Health's goal in serving residents
3. 2024 achievements and operational highlights
4. Observed trends and service demands
5. 2025 Public Health priorities
6. Summary

COUNCIL ACTS AS BOARD OF HEALTH



- Public Health is governed by the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* and Council as Board of Health
- Activities, programs and services are mandated by the Ontario Public Health Standards
- Ontario Public Health Standards require Boards of Health to produce publicly available annual performance reports

PROTECTING, PROMOTING AND IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

- Public Health provides 36 programs and services, serving the community and 1.28 million residents at all stages of life
- Services include health protection and promotion programs, activities focused on social and economic determinants of health and prioritizing health equity delivered through four operational Divisions and supports



2024 OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



39,599

students received dental screenings at school in the 2023-2024 school year

21,568

food premise inspections



Approximately
486,000

vaccine doses distributed to community health care providers and public health clinics



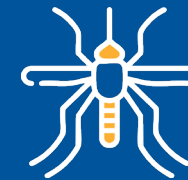
11,287



sexual health clinic appointments

5,158

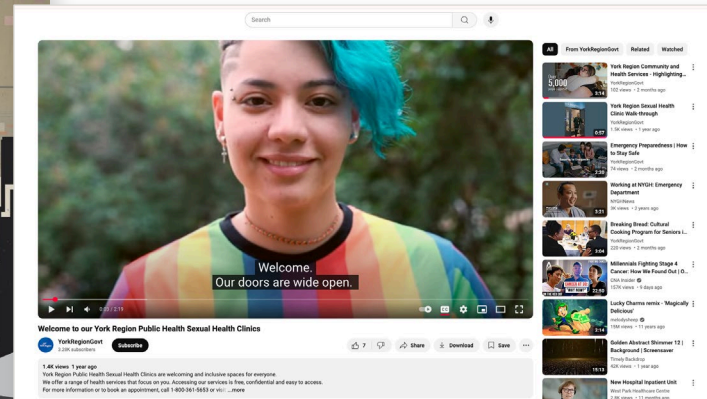
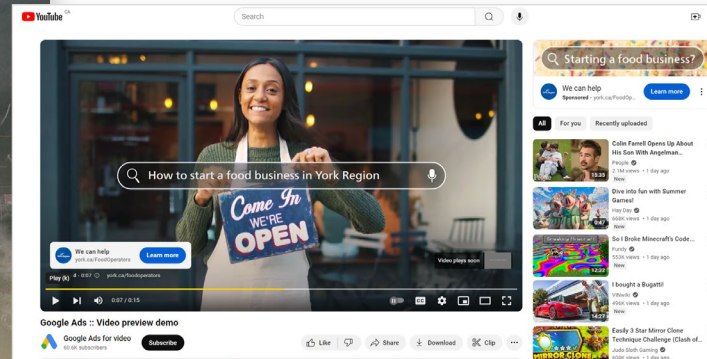
home visits to families for child and family health



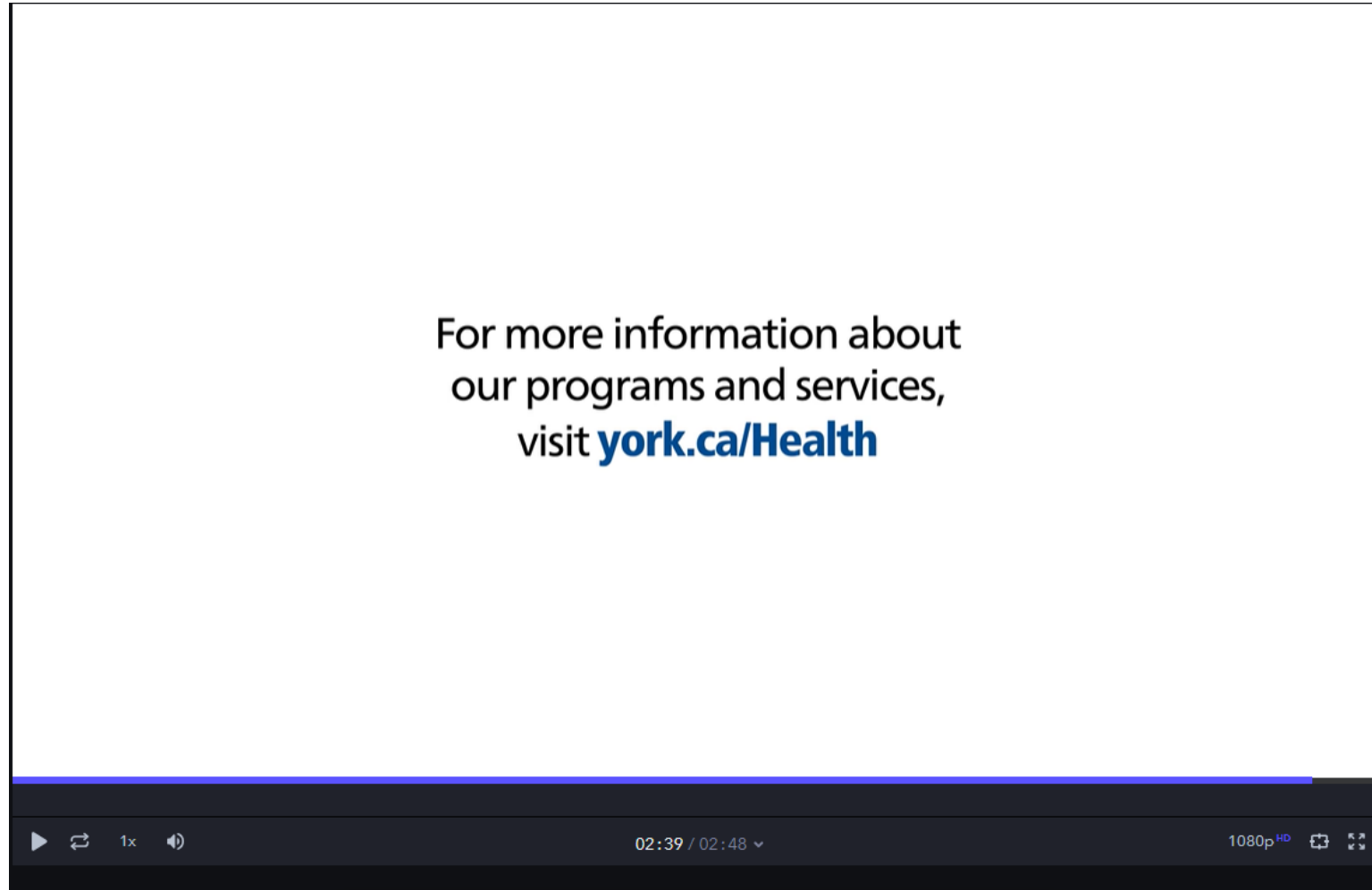
107,770

street and environmentally sensitive catch basins treated with larvicide to prevent spread of mosquitoes carrying West Nile disease

VISUALIZING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS



VIDEO



POPULATION HEALTH TRENDS

Population health trends are changing:

- Ongoing mental health related challenges
- Increasing number of reportable infectious diseases
- Evolving environmental health related concerns

104%

increase in referrals from health care professionals for infant feeding clinics, parenting and mental health supports



27%

increase in reported incidents of exposures to animal who may transmit rabies




39%

increase in varicella (chickenpox)


PUBLIC HEALTH MEETING RESIDENT NEEDS

Increasing demands for public health services experienced in 2024:

- Increase in number and complexity of personal service setting inspections
- Rising number of health protection related concerns received
- Increasing volume of clients reaching out to Public Health for services

23% 

increase in number of
personal service settings
needing inspection

 **43%**

increase in live chats with
Public Health Nurses

8.5% 

increase in numbers of
complaints related to Health
Protection services

2025 AREAS OF FOCUS

- Delivering excellence in public health programming
- Understanding York Region's health status and population health trends
- Leveraging digital innovation to enhance communications on health trends and create operational efficiencies
- Anticipating release of revised Ontario Public Health Standards



SUMMARY

In 2025, Public Health will continue to:

- Protect, promote and improve the health and wellbeing of York Region residents
- Monitor and adapt to ongoing trends and service level pressures

