



Office of the Commissioner  
Community and Health Services Department

## MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Chair Emmerson and Members of Regional Council

From: Katherine Chislett  
Commissioner of Community and Health Services

Dr. Karim Kurji  
Medical Officer of Health

Date: May 13, 2019

Re: New Public Health Entity and Boundary

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On May 9, Regional staff participated in a teleconference with staff of the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to discuss planned changes related to establishment of a new public health entity. This memo provides an update on the provincial government's plans for public health.

### **A new public health entity that combines York Region and South Simcoe-Muskoka will be created by April 1, 2020**

The Government intends to pass legislation this fall to implement 10 new public health entities with autonomous Boards effective April 1, 2020. These 10 would replace the existing 35 public health units, including York Region public health. At this time, York Region is proposed to be combined with the southern part of Simcoe-Muskoka as one public health entity (see Attachment 1).

Information about how the new public health boards would be structured and membership was not provided.

### **Public Health budgets will be transferred to the new entity effective April 1, 2020**

The provincial share of funds for public health would be transferred to the new entity upon its creation effective April 1, 2020. Subsequently, the 30 per cent municipal contribution to the new

entity will be determined. The following year, as of April 1, 2021, the municipal contribution share will increase to 40 per cent.

Ministry staff anticipate the actual transfer of public health programs would take place over 2020/2021 and possibly into 2021/2022.

The Province will make funding available for transition/implementation costs which may include such things as pay equity, voluntary attrition packages, severances, and IT migration.

The in-year and future financial pressures set out in my memo to Council dated [April 24, 2019](#) may vary. The Province intends to reduce Ontario public health spending by \$200M by 2021-2022 through provincial-municipal cost sharing adjustments and improving back-office efficiencies through regionalization. As Public Health Units transition to their new entities, the Province intends to implement a savings target of up to 10 per cent starting now and over the next one to two years. Details are anticipated within the next month.

### **A new dental program for seniors will be implemented later this year**

The Province plans to move forward with the 100 per cent Provincially-funded new seniors' dental program in 2019 as set out in its April 11, 2019 budget. More information on this, including funding, is expected soon.

### **Next Steps**

The Region will continue to engage with various sector tables and with Ministry staff to seek further information and identify impacts. We will report back to York Regional Council and Board of Health as appropriate.

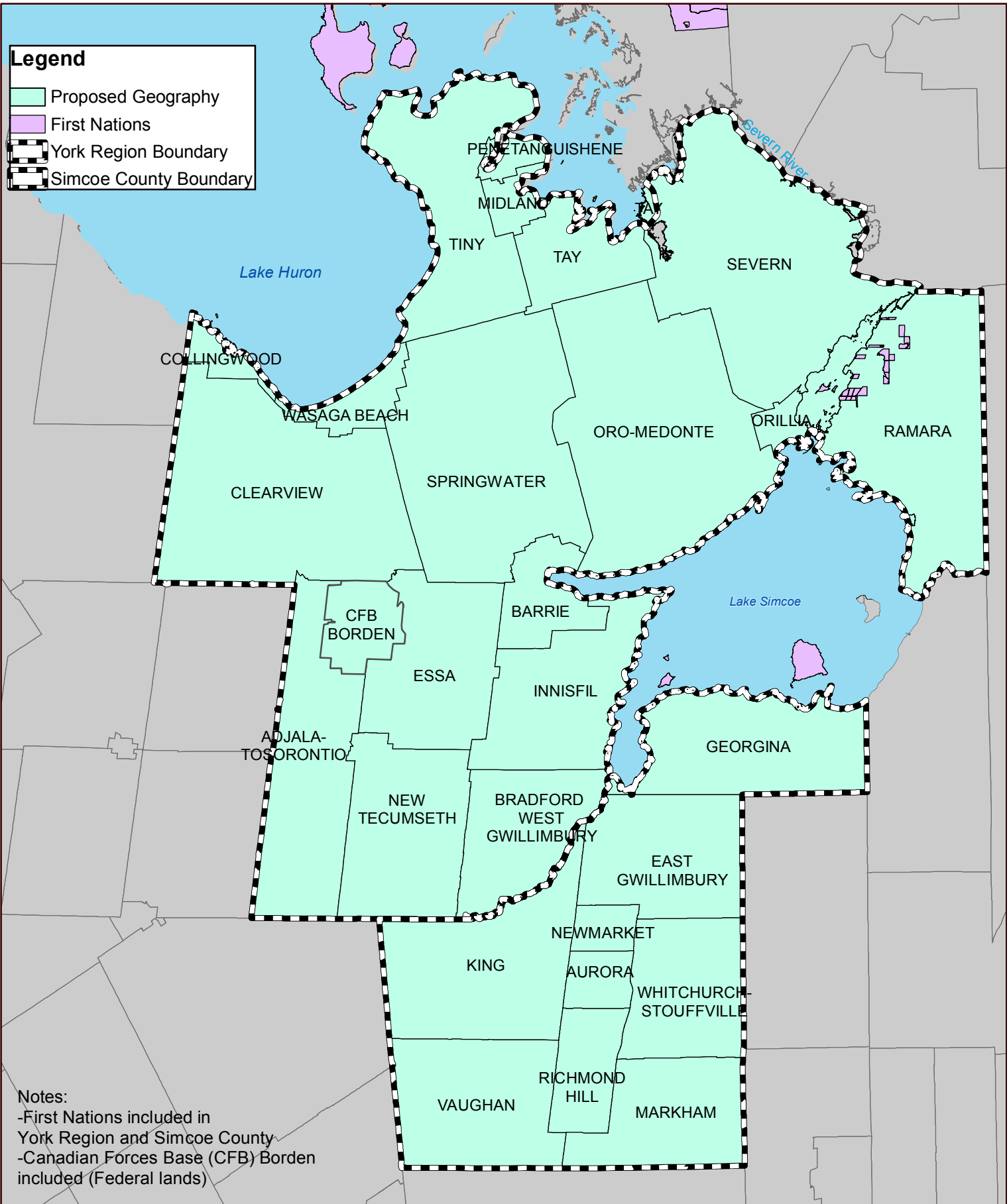
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Katherine Chislett  
Commissioner of Community and Health Services

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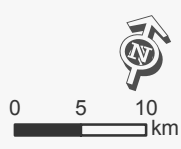
Bruce Macgregor  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment (1)  
9529071



Notes:  
 -First Nations included in York Region and Simcoe County  
 -Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Borden included (Federal lands)

**Proposed Geography for the  
 New Public Health Entity**  
 May 10, 2019



Produced by:  
 The Regional Municipality of York  
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 Community and Health Services  
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