



## MINUTES: GIS Interest Group Meeting, Friday, December 15, 2023, 10:00 AM

**NOTE: Please ensure you mute your phone and please do not place your phone on hold. Thank you!**

Group Chair: John Cunningham

Recorder: David Guillette

DISCUSSION	
1.0	<p><b>Welcome:</b></p> <p>Ainslie Butler - SMDHU, Anjali Pandya – DRHD, David Guillette - PPH, Dinna Lozano - NBPS, Jackie Edwards - PHSD, James McKeown – WDGPH, Jason Letchford – HRHD, John Cunningham – LGLDHU, John Mitchell - NBPSDHU, Michele Bergevin - UGuelph, Payal Jain – PPH, Ryan Waterhouse – NRPHD</p>
2.0	<p><b>Additions to &amp; Approval of Agenda:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No additions</li><li>• Approved – Jackie Edwards</li></ul>
3.0	<p><b>Review and approval of previous minutes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bringing forward public health education topics related to GIS.</li><li>• Looking for a shorter presentation for next meeting in order to reserve time to discuss results from GIS Best Practices in Public Health literature review.</li></ul>
4.0	<p><b>Business arising and action items to review:</b></p> <p>4.1 Review action items</p>
5.0	<p><b>Items for decision:</b></p>

DISCUSSION	
	5.1. N/A
6.0	<p><b>Items for discussion:</b></p> <p>6.1. N/A</p>
7.0	<p><b>Items for information:</b></p> <p>7.1. N/A</p>
8.0	<p><b>Standing agenda items:</b></p> <p>8.1. Spatial resources section on GIS Interest Group site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No update currently awaiting appointment of new secretary. <b>John C</b> to add resources once web page is ready.</li> <li>• <b>Ryan W.</b> - expressed interest in assisting with web resources design and maintenance.</li> <li>• <b>Ainslie B.</b> - APHEO has existing website committee that we can reach out to in the meantime to <b>Sherri Deamond</b></li> <li>• <b>James M.</b> - StatCan QGIS Training Videos <a href="https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/89200005">https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/89200005</a></li> </ul> <p>8.2. GIS &amp; spatial epidemiology best practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lit search on GIS Best Practices has commenced, but with limited initial resources, no current “gold standard” for this topic. Most literature is application specific but not at a foundation general level. Grey lit has more promising resources related to foundational practices. Have contacted ESRI, Alberta Health Services, Ministry of Health, CDC hopeful these contacts can provide insight or redirect us to better resources. Invite KFLA Hub Librarian (Jane Beehler) to upcoming meeting to discuss results. Publish results first week for January.</li> <li>• <b>Ainslie B.</b> – completing similar work at Simcoe-Muskoka with limited success identifying pre-existing work related to GIS and Public Health foundational work.</li> <li>• <b>Jackie E</b> – working on Enterprise level of development across the health unit. Multi-faceted approach to cover broad topics. Remains a difficult task as there is limited “foundations” related to GIS and Public Health.</li> <li>• <b>Ryan W</b> – due to the nature of “GIS” term best practices can pertain to wide-ranging topics within the purview of GIS and GIS Systems including data management, spatial data science, enterprise system management, etc. Ministry of Health - Public Health Digital Platform – PHU Survey Findings included a single reference to Geospatial Mapping (ArcGIS) under surveillance on the Current State of Public Healthy Digital Ecosystem (Slide 6)</li> </ul> <p>8.3. Education topics for upcoming meetings</p>
9.0	<b>Presentation:</b>

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
	<p>David G. - <b>Understanding Peel’s Landscape Through the Use of Peel Health Data Zones:</b> Understanding Peel Health Data Zones (PHDZ) arose out of a need for assessing health status at a level of geography that balances individual privacy and meaningful analysis to support decision-making. The PHDZ are geographic areas within Peel created using small, stable geographic units (census tracts) that share similar economic status and social conditions based. The initial thirteen PHDZ were completed in 2010 under the supervision of Dr. Bruce Newbold, McMaster University. An update of the data zones was required to account for growth and changes over time in Peel since 2006. The update zones, 40 in total, cover smaller areas, and have smaller populations, allowing for increased awareness of spatial variation in the distribution of health outcomes, environment exposures, and socio-economic variables.</p>
10.0	<p><b>Next meeting date, time, and location:</b> John C. - to send Doodle Poll in early 2024.</p>