

JANUARY 4, 2010

OFFICE OF MICHAEL BRAGG  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
COUNTY OF OXFORD

## New director of Public Health & Emergency Services announced

***New director brings 14 years experience in public health management with emphasis on building community partnerships***

### NEWS

Warden Paul Holbrough today announced the appointment of Lynn Beath as the new director of Public Health & Emergency Services, effective February 1, 2010. Beath's appointment was approved by Oxford County Council on January 4.

Beath joins Oxford County Public Health & Emergency Services from Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit where she has served in leadership roles for the past 14 years. In her current position as director and Chief Nursing Officer, she has direct oversight for the health unit's Community Health Disease Prevention Division. Her experience spans a range of public health policy and program areas as well as involvement in local initiatives for community centres, family health teams, and two Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs). Beath holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Western Ontario and joined the public health field as a public health nurse.

As the new director of Public Health & Emergency Services, Beath will head an upper-tier municipal service with a \$16.9-million annual operating budget and approximately 160 employees. The department's services include family health, immunization, healthy living, infectious disease prevention, sexual health, environmental health, emergency services, and other programs that support healthy behaviours in a healthy environment.

### QUOTES

"I know the community will join me in welcoming Lynn to the County of Oxford. Public Health is a key service delivered by the County, and Lynn's strength in building community partnerships will help ensure we can continue to deliver high quality community health care here in Oxford in the most effective way possible."

- Warden Paul Holbrough, County of Oxford

"The County is pleased to have recruited someone with Lynn's leadership experience: she will be an asset not only to Public Health but also to the County of Oxford management team. At the same time, I would also like to publicly acknowledge the outstanding work Mary Metcalfe has performed over the past year in her dual role as acting director of Public Health and manager of Health Protection, leading us very capably through the H1N1 outbreak and one of the largest vaccination programs the health unit has undertaken."

- Michael Bragg, Chief Administrative Officer, County of Oxford

- more -

**ABOUT OXFORD COUNTY** Set among rolling hills and farmland, Oxford County offers a mix of rural and urban settings as well as a rapidly expanding business sector that includes Canada's second Toyota plant. The county boasts several heritage sites; a thriving local arts, culture and recreation community; and several park, conservation and natural areas, including 98 kilometres of trails. The County has a population of approximately 106,000 people across eight municipalities that are "growing stronger... together" through an upper tier municipal government incorporated as the County of Oxford. The regional seat for the County of Oxford is in Woodstock. For more information visit [www.oxfordcounty.ca](http://www.oxfordcounty.ca)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION / TO ARRANGE AN INTERVIEW:**

Tommasina Conte | Communications Coordinator

Tel: 519 539-9800, ext. 3503 | Mobile: 519 608-3003 | [tconte@oxfordcounty.ca](mailto:tconte@oxfordcounty.ca)