



# COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Effective Date: 2007/03/30  
Amended: 2008/12/09  
Reviewed: 2013/11/20

## Policy Statement

*It is the policy of the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board that the requirements set out in this document shall form part of the Board Policies and the Chief of Police is hereby directed to comply with these requirements in his/her administration and operation of the Peel Regional Police.*

### 1. Subject

The guiding principles under which procedures and processes relating to occupational exposure to communicable diseases are established.

### 2. Specific Definitions

**“communicable diseases”** – a disease where the infectious agent can exit the colonized or infected host and enter another host, causing subsequent colonization or infection.

### 3. Policy Requirements

The Board directs that this section of the policy and any police service directive and/or procedure relating to occupational exposure to communicable diseases be based on the following principles:

- a) That it is in complete compliance with legislative and constitutional requirements, and recognized legal principles;
- b) That members act with full respect for human dignity and according to professional standards of skill, integrity and accountability;
- c) That it maintains both member and public safety as a priority;
- d) That the Chief of Police ensures members are provided with the necessary training, tools, and equipment to protect against contracting communicable diseases in the workplace;
- e) That the Chief of Police designates one or more members to be trained as a Communicable Disease Coordinator;
- f) That the Chief of Police ensures procedures be set out for members that are consistent with the most recent edition of the Ministry of Health & Long Term Care’s *“Preventing and Assessing Occupational Exposures to Selected Communicable Diseases – An Information Manual for Designated Officers”*;
- g) That the Chief of Police ensures each Communicable Disease Coordinator be provided with the most recent edition of the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care’s *“Preventing and Assessing Occupational Exposures to Selected Communicable Diseases – An Information Manual for Designated Officers”*;

- h) That the Chief of Police maintains a liaison with hospitals and health care professionals within the community, including the Medical Officer of Health, who deal with issues relating to communicable diseases;
- i) That the Chief of Police, in cooperation with the Region of Peel's medical officer of health to develop a post-exposure plan that addresses roles and responsibilities, reporting protocols, medical evaluation, intervention, confidentiality, access to treatment and follow-up support for members who have suffered high-risk exposure to a communicable disease; and
- j) That the Chief of Police regularly review occupational exposure to communicable diseases to remain current with case law, inquests, inquiry findings and amendments to related legislation.

#### **4. Measurement Methods**

The Chief of Police shall regularly review occupational exposure to communicable diseases to ensure the integrity of the police service directive and/or procedure.

#### **5. Reporting**

The Chief of Police shall report on those circumstances where occupational exposure to communicable diseases has resulted in an "exceptional" circumstance, or a circumstance which may be detrimental to the police service; and/or has resulted in significant issues of potential liability to the Board and the police service.

#### **6. Authority/Legislative Reference**

Occupational Health and Safety Act  
Board Minute #56/07  
Board Minute #127/08  
Board Minute #75/13

#### **7. Linkage to Appropriate Police Service Procedure/Directive**

I-B-131(F) Occupational Exposure to Communicable Diseases