

## **Public Health Elective Opportunities at Middlesex-London Health Unit (MLHU)**

**[www.healthunit.com](http://www.healthunit.com)**

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### **Elective Opportunity**

The Middlesex-London Health Unit offers a dynamic opportunity for highly motivated medical students who are considering Public Health as a career. As one of 36 Accredited Public Health Units in Ontario, MLHU is mandated to provide legislated public health programs and services within the city of London and Middlesex County. As a result, MLHU employs up to 350 multidisciplinary professional and administrative personnel who work together, to serve an urban and rural health population of more than 400,000.

Medical students in Year 3 or Year 4, who are selected for this placement, will spend two weeks participating in a variety of public health learning opportunities chosen to expand their knowledge about health promotion and population health approaches:

### **Learning Topics**

- The role of the Associate/Medical Officer of Health; Public Health as a career option
- Communicable disease case and outbreak management
- Understanding epidemiology of current health problems and surveillance of reportable diseases
- Overview of public health approaches to immediate health issues
- Use of program planning and evaluation framework for developing evidence based programs customized to local needs and evaluation of existing programs.
- Providing direct patient care within several clinic environments and within the community
- Inspection protocols used in settings such as restaurants, child care centres, long-term care facilities, etc.
- How Public Health legislation in Ontario safeguards and protects health of Ontarians.

### **Learning Benefits**

Students will receive a high level introduction to public health as a future career option by interacting with highly skilled, interdisciplinary teams comprised of Public Health Nurses, Public Health Inspectors, Public Health Dietitians, Physicians, Dentists, Health Promoters, Researchers, Evaluators, Epidemiologists and support staff, who work together, and with community partners, to prevent diseases and promote and protect the health of our community.

### **Dynamic Programs**

The Mandate of the Middlesex-London Health Unit, as defined by the Ontario Health Protection and Promotion Act (R.S.O.1990) covers a broad spectrum of public health services that include:

- Control of Infectious Disease and Health Hazard Investigation
- Immunization and Vaccine Preventable Diseases
- Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
- Food and Water Safety
- Sexual and Reproductive Health
- Family and Child Health
- Dental Health
- Emergency Preparedness

All medical student placements are coordinated through the part -time position of the MLHU **Human Resources Student Coordinator**, Healthy Organization. For more information or to arrange a placement at MLHU, email [lisa.macsween@mlhu.on.ca](mailto:lisa.macsween@mlhu.on.ca) or leave a voice message at 519-663-5317 ext. 2597.