

1884-1896, 1898-1916, 1926-1956

22 cm. of textual records (4 volumes)

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The Local Board of Health was established under “The Public Health Act 1884” which required that there be a local board of health for each town containing more than 4,000 people according to the municipal enumeration of the previous year.

The Board was responsible for the management of various public health concerns, including sanitary conditions, disease control, and sewer and water. A number of individuals reported to the Board of Health, including the Sanitary Inspector, Public Health Nurses, the Medical Health Officer and the Matron of the Isolation Hospital. Unfortunately, it appears that none of these reports have survived.

On December 31, 1956, the Local Board of Health was dissolved. Under By-Law 3982, in 1956, an Agreement was entered into between the Improvement District of Dorion, the Township of Nipigon, the Municipality of Shuniah and the City of Port Arthur to establish a Health Unit pursuant to Section 34 of The Public Health Act, R.S.O. 1950, Chapter 306. Under By-Law 3983, also in 1956, subject to the approval of The Department of Health for Ontario, the staff employed by the Local Board of Health, consisting of five public health nurses, two sanitary inspectors and two stenographers were to be employed by the Health Unit upon its establishment.

The series consists of meeting minutes relating to public health issues concerning both the Town and City of Port Arthur. A bound handwritten volume exists for minutes dated June 16, 1884 - February 24, 1896 and May 7, 1898 - January 9, 1907. At the back of this volume are a few statistics on diseases which were of concern at that time. A bound handwritten volume also exists for minutes dated January 28, 1907 – 1916. At the back of this volume are statistics on diseases which were of concern at that time, as well as statistics on number of births, and deaths of children under one year of age, between the years 1910 and 1912. There is an index available for this volume which can be found inside the front cover. A post binder exists for minutes dated 1926 – 1956 as well as a post binder containing Indexes for the years 1934 – 1956.

Minutes are not available for the period 1897, 1917 – 10 March 1926.

RST

Further accruals are not anticipated.