

Folder #9 - Media Reports Summary

TITLE	SOURCE	ISSUE
1. Suspensions vs. Vaccinations	Trentonian.ca June 7, 2012	“School suspensions are being used by the region's health unit to enforce vaccinations” No mention of exemptions in article.
2. Suspensions vs. Vaccinations	Intelligencer.ca June 6, 2012	“Ontario's Immunization of School Pupils Act requires all children attending school to be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
3. Immunization suspension list pared down drastically	TheRecord.com May 9, 2012	“Provincial legislation requires students attending school in the region to be immunized against tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps, rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
4. Almost 700 high school students suspended due to incomplete immunization records	TheRecord.com May 8, 2012	“Provincial legislation requires students attending school in the region to be immunized against tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps, rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
5. Students face suspension over outdated shots	Healthandfitness.sympatico.ca April 11, 2012	“Health officials in southern Ontario say hundreds of high school students could face suspension if they don't get their booster shots.” No mention of exemptions in article.
6. Toronto seeks more mandatory vaccinations	Thestar.com January 20, 2012	This article does mention that a “statement of conscience or religion” can be provided, but repeats “mandatory” vaccinations numerous times.
7. New vaccines roll out Monday	Cramahe-now.com August 3, 2011	“Children must have the diptheria [sic], tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella immunization before they attend school.” No mention of exemptions in article.
8. Parents scramble to update children's vaccinations after school warning	Ottawa Citizen May 27, 2011	No mention of exemptions in article.

9. Vaccines available by late summer	The Community Press May 19, 2011	“[Dr. Rosana] Pellizzari said the children of immigrants have to have all shots before starting school.” This is an inaccurate and misleading statement.
10. 70 students suspended for not having up-to-date health records	North Bay Nugget May 18, 2011	“Tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps and rubella shots are required to attend school in Ontario.” No mention of exemptions in article.
11. Immunization Suspensions On The Decline – News Release	North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit April 28, 2011	“Only 53 high school students in the North Bay Parry Sound district faced suspension last month, pending proof of mandatory immunizations.” No mention of exemptions in this news release.
12. Most students suspended for not having up-to-date immunization records are back in school	North Bay Nugget May 5, 2011	“Tetanus, diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps and rubella shots are required to attend school in Ontario.” No mention of exemptions in article.
13. Durham Health Department reminds parents to vaccinate children	Newsdurhamregion.com April 29, 2011	“Provincial legislation requires children to be vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
14. 75 elementary students suspended for failing to prove immunizations	North Bay Nugget April 29, 2011	“It says parents of children who refuse to have their children immunized can be fined up to \$1,000.” No mention of exemptions in article.
15. High school students suspended over immunizations	CTV.ca April 5, 2011	“A number of students were able to get immunizations immediately and should be back in class by Wednesday.” No mention of exemptions in article.
16. Immunizations not up to date could spell suspension for area students	Baytoday.ca March 1, 2011	“If students' immunizations are not up to date, they will be suspended either April 28 or May 17 depending on the school the child attends.” No mention of exemptions in article.

17. Students face suspension	Cambridge Times Feb. 28, 2011	“Some exemptions are permitted based on medical or religious reasons, however, families must provide appropriate legal documentation.” The article does not mention exemptions based on “conscience”.
18. Suspensions begin April 28 for students who are not immunized	North Bay Nugget February 28, 2011	No mention of exemptions in this article. The headline implies vaccinations are mandatory.
19. Health Unit giving a boost to hundreds of high school students	Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit February 13, 2012	“This booster shot [Tdap vaccine] is required by Ontario law as part of the Immunization of School Pupils Act, and hundreds of students may be facing suspension from school if they do not receive the vaccine.” No mention of exemptions.
20. Without vaccine records, students face suspension	The Times of New Tecumseth February 2, 2012	No mention of exemptions in article.
21. Without vaccine records, students face suspension	Simcoe.com January 31, 2012	No mention of exemptions in article.
22. Immunization clinics planned at high schools	North Bay Nugget January 5, 2011	“In Ontario, the Immunization of School Pupils Act states that children attending school must be adequately immunized.” No mention of exemptions in article.
23. Bowmanville boy, 12, charged with threatening to damage school	Toronto Sun November 24, 2010	“A 12-year old Bowmanville boy was charged after he threw a temper tantrum when he discovered he was getting a hepatitis B inoculation shot ...” “ While Durham Health Department nurses were here giving students their required immunizations, one of the students became upset.” The hepatitis B vaccine is not a “required” vaccination under the Act.
24. Threatening charge laid against Bowmanville student upset over hep B shot	Correspondence from Rita Hoffman to Durham Police, cc to school board and health unit	Points out Health Care Consent Act where a student can choose to receive an immunization or

	personnel and Minister of Health November 27, 2010 – no response received.	refuse an immunization. This child CLEARLY did not consent to the vaccination.
25. Student vaccines: school is just around the corner for many children	CKWS Television August 16, 2010	“Parents must have proof of vaccination for children who are first entering the school system.” No mention of exemptions in this television segment.
26. Vaccination deadline looms	The Sarnia Observer April 8, 2010	“The Immunization of School Pupils Act mandates all Ontario students receive full immunization. Exemptions are only granted, with proper documentation, for religious beliefs or medical conditions.” This article does not explain what “full immunization” is and fails to mention exemptions based on reasons of conscience.
27. Public health urges parents to update student vaccination records	TheRecord.com Date unknown 2010	No mention of exemptions in article.
28. Students suspended over out of date immunizations	Caledon Enterprise May 4, 2010	No mention of exemptions in article.
29. Mumps spike reveals risk in one-dose vaccinations	The Hamilton Spectator March 4, 2010	“Elementary school vaccination programs can make sure kids get necessary shots now, but people in their 20s or 30s are past that state, Tran said.” No mention of exemptions in article.
30. Secondary school immunization clinics	Meaford Express February 9, 2010	“Students are able to sign their own consent form under the Health Care Consent Act, in the event that they do not have signed parental consent.” No mention of exemptions in article.
31. Students suspended for outdated immunization records	Northpeel.com December 23, 2009	No mention of exemptions in article.
32. Students suspended for outdated immunization records	Exeter Times- Advocate December 23, 2009	No mention of exemptions in article.
33. 95% of students immunized in Grey-Bruce	The Post September 4, 2009	No mention of exemptions in article.
34. Most Norfolk students vaccinated	The Delhi News-Record May 15, 2009	“With 90.1% vaccinated, that leaves 9.9% unprotected. These

		students are exempted for medical reasons or have filed affidavits saying vaccinations conflict with their religious beliefs.” There is no mention of exemptions for reasons of conscience.
35. Health unit has vaccination schedule Student shots required	The Sarnia Observer May 11, 2009	“All students in Ontario must be fully immunized. Exemptions may be granted on the grounds of religious belief or medical conditions, if proper documentation is provided.” There is no mention of exemptions for reasons of conscience.
36. Students without vaccinations will face suspension: Health Unit	The Sarnia Observer May 9, 2009	“All students in Ontario must be fully immunized. Exemptions may be granted on the grounds of religious belief or medical conditions, if proper documentation is provided.” There is no mention of exemptions for reasons of conscience.
37. Keep shots up-to-date, health unit urges public	Belleville Intelligencer April 26, 2009	“Health unit staff do regular shots at schools, but can also suspend children from school if their immunizations aren't current. 'We don't want too suspend but we will if we have to,' said Sherlock.” No mention of exemptions in the article.
38. Vaccination article	Correspondence from Rita Hoffman to the author of article above (#37.). No response or correction issued.	“Your readers will get the impression that vaccination is compulsory and it is not! I trust you will issue a correction!” No response.
39. Hastings-Prince Edward School students face suspensions over missed immunizations	Mix97.com April 24, 2009	“Suspensions begin on May first for any student whose parent or guardian can't provide proof of immunization for those diseases.” No mention of exemptions in the article.
40. Enforcement of Immunization of School Pupils	Exchange Magazine April 17, 2009	“With proper legal documentation, students can be

Act Elementary and Secondary School Grades		exempt from immunization based on medical or philosophical reasons.” No mention of religion exemptions in article.
41. Health Unit to send out hundreds of suspension notices	MyKawartha.com April 13, 2009	“We do not like to suspend students, there is a requirement for all students to be immunized.” No mention of exemptions in article.
42. Suspension notices issued to hundreds of students	The Delhi News-Record April 2, 2009	“Principals will be informed in the letter of which students will be suspended if immunization doesn't occur.” ... “Ontario law requires the students get their booster shots and it was time for the Health Unit to take some action.” No mention of exemptions in article.
43. Students given suspension notices for not getting booster shots	CBC.ca March 30, 2009	This article does mention exemptions, however it states, incorrectly, “Students must be immunized against diseases like tetanus, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella and whooping cough in order to attend school.” Whooping cough, or pertussis, is not a disease that must be vaccinated for under the Act.
44. Unvaccinated students facing suspension, Health Unit warns	Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit February 26, 2009	“Hundreds of secondary school students in Haldimand and Norfolk Counties could be suspended from school in April if they don't get booster-shot vaccinations required by Ontario law,...” No mention of exemptions in press release.
45. Suspension notices sent to 749 high school students	Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit March 27, 2009	“‘If students get vaccinated between now and April 14, they'll be able to stay in school, but they had better move fast,’ Holmes warned.” No mention of exemptions in press release.
46. Unvaccinated students facing suspension, Health Unit warns	Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit February 26, 2009	No mention of exemptions in press release.

47. Hundreds of students suspended in Norfolk, Haldimand, Suspensions take effect April 14	The Tillsonburg News March 27, 2009	“The vaccines are required by Ontario law and through the Immunization of School Pupils Act, the health unit has the authority to suspend those who do not get vaccinated.” No mention of exemptions in article.
48. Immunization Records Can Prevent Student suspensions	AM920 CKNX Information Country March 11, 2009	No mention of exemptions in article.
49. Region's vaccination database gets a shot in the arm	Northpeel.com February 25, 2009	“Children must be fully immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella to attend public schools in Ontario.” No mention of exemptions in article.
50. Electronic immunization records needed: Toronto health official	CBC.ca February 5, 2009	“Another one per cent are exempt because of medical and religious reasons, but finding the remaining three per cent and keeping track of immunization records is difficult.” No mention of exemptions for reasons of conscience in the article.
51. Letters give vaccination rate a booster shot	The Mississauga News January 2, 2009	No mention of exemptions in article.
52. Missed shots spur kids' suspension Students lacking required vaccinations may be kept out of school	Toronto Star January 2, 2009	This article does mention exemptions, but the headline states, “Students lacking required vaccinations may be kept out of school.” This is misleading.
53. Immunization records due Dec. 16	Stayner Sun December 4, 2008	“The health unit is looking for up-to-date records on immunizations for measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria and polio.” No mention of exemptions in article.
54. Immunization records due Dec. 16	The Collingwood-Wasaga Beach Connection December 1, 2008	“The health unit is looking for up-to-date records on immunizations for measles,

		mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria and polio.” No mention of exemptions in article.
55. Goal is to protect students not penalize them, letter from Dr. Gemmill, Medical Officer of Health	The Kingston Whig Standard October 9, 2008	Dr. Gemmill does not mention exemptions in his very long letter to the Whig Standard.
56. Pupils treated too harshly	The Kingston Whig Standard September 30, 2008	“If at any time during the first 20-day suspension the student proves he or she has been immunized or produces a letter stating he or she chooses not to due to medical or spiritual beliefs (the only grounds for exemption under the legislation), then the student will be re-admitted back to class.” While this editorial does mention exemptions, it does not mention exemptions for reasons of conscience.
57. Students may face suspension if immunizations not up to date	The Kingston Whig Standard September 27, 2008	This article has two inaccuracies. It states that pertussis vaccinations are required (they are not under the Act), and it does mention exemptions, but not for reasons of conscience.
58. Vaccine Suspend	CKWS Television September 24, 2008	“It's provincial law for students to be vaccinated against childhood diseases like polio, measles, mumps and rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
59. Update vaccinations before school starts	Kingston This week, August 20, 2008	While this article does mention an exemption, this quote is misleading, “Many parents forget that children still need immunizations after the first two years of life and are surprised to find out their children can't enter school without proof of immunization,' says van Wylick.”
60. Add immunizations to back-to-school checklist	The Mississauga News August 11, 2008	“They must be fully immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.”

		No mention of exemptions in article.
61. Add vaccinations to your back-to-school checklist	Caledon Enterprise August 15, 2008	“All children attending school in Ontario must be fully immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, and rubella.” No mention of exemptions in article.
62. Adacel Clinic	Grapevine, Quinte Christian High School May 2, 2008	“The Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit is planning on holding the Adacel Clinic (booster) & Meningitis C vaccines on May 14. Individual Consent forms will be sent home with those students who require these injections.” No one is required to receive the Meningitis C vaccine, and there is no mention of exemptions for the Adacel vaccine.
63. Enforcement of Immunization of School Pupils Act	Exchange Morning Post April 10, 2008	“With proper legal documentation, students can be exempt from immunization based on medical or philosophical reasons.” There is no mention of religious reasons.
64. Many Peel children not immunized: Public health report	The Mississauga News, editorial	“She said that when a student enrolls they are required to provide proof of immunization otherwise they are not enrolled.” No mention of exemptions in article.
65. Health unit says students need up-to-date immunization record	Recorder.ca August 22, 2007	This article does mention exemptions, however it is full of misinformation, including “For instance, this fall, local girls will get access to a vaccine against the human papilloma virus (HPV), ... yet in some U.S. States the vaccine is mandatory, said Futcher. That means students hoping to attend some American schools will have to get the vaccine” The few states that do have legislation have opt out policies for the

		HPV vaccine.
66. 50 students remain suspended	Cambridge Times, May 10, 2007	“We need to know that the children sitting in our classrooms are immunized from vaccine preventable diseases.” she said. No mention of exemptions in article.
67. Health officials here on lookout for mumps	Brockville Recorder & Times May 8, 2007	“At one year old, children already receive a mandatory inoculation against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), said Futcher.” No mention of exemptions in article.
68. More than 70 students suspended over immunization shots	The Belleville Intelligencer May 8, 2007	No mention of exemptions in this article.
69. High school students need all their shots	570 News April 30, 2007	“Teens who haven't got the proper vaccinations can be sent home from school, and won't be showed back until they've got the necessary shots. A number of students have already been shown the door today.” No mention of exemptions in this report.
70. Immunization Suspensions	Stirling Senior Public School Newsletter, page 2, April 2007	“If documentation of appropriate immunization is not received by the Health Unit within 3 weeks of the date the letter is sent, the child will be suspended from school.” No mention of exemptions in this article.
71. Health unit reminds parents to keep immunization current	Simcoe.com March 23, 2007	“According to the Immunization of School Pupils Act, students must be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.”
72. No needles, no school	Radio Owen Sound, Bayshore Broadcasting Corporation March 21, 2007	“The Grey Bruce Health Unit suspended 65 students across the region yesterday due to incomplete immunization.” No mention of exemptions in article.
73. Letter to Parent/Guardian	Renfrew County & District Health Unit Parent received	“Documentation of your child's immunizations must be provided

	January 2007, letter is dated 2005.	to the Renfrew County & District Health Unit as outlined on the attached sheet.” This letter to parents does not mention exemptions!
74. Vaccinate or stay home, Durham students told	Toronto Star January 13, 2007	“Parents who don't want to have their children vaccinated on medical or religious grounds can register their objection with the health department.” This does not mention exemptions for reasons of conscience.
75. Pupils suspended for failing to produce immunization record	The Hamilton Spectator September 22, 2006	“Ontario Ministry of Health spokesperson David Jensen said students in the province must be vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps, rubella and pertussis.” There is no mention of exemptions in this article, and pertussis vaccination is not covered under the Act.
76. 150 Eastern Ontario students suspended over vaccination records	CBC Ottawa September 21, 2006	“One hundred fifty Eastern Ontario students must stay home from school for 21 days – or until they can prove they've had all their shots. ... The records must show the children have been vaccinated against diphtheria, tetanus, polio, measles, mumps and rubella.” Misleading and no mention of exemptions!
77. 2,000 students facing suspension over immunization	The Record via Toronto Star Archive May 3, 2006	“Koehler said he got an earlier letter a month or so ago but it was about an immunization that his daughter was not required to have. He called to question the letter and left a message, but never got a response.” This article does mention exemptions, but also details confusion from parents re: forms from health units.
78. No shots, no school in Waterloo Region; About 1,800 students suspended from	Guelph Mercury via Toronto Star Archive May 4, 2006	“While they waited for their children to be immunized, some parents said they knew their

attending class for not having complete immunization records		children had the shots, but they couldn't get the records to prove it. They had been lost in moves from one country or province to another, or the doctor had retired and the records were gone too." This article does not mention exemptions.
79. Meningitis clinics set for high schools in three counties	Brockville Recorder & Times May 2, 2006	The meningitis C vaccine is not under the Act, however the Leeds Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit tries to persuade acceptance by stating "Ferguson said post-secondary schools are now beginning to demand proof of vaccination as a requirement to get into residence. Students who miss the school clinics may still get their required shots this summer by contacting the health unit or their family physician, she said."
80. Question For Public Health Nurse Jamie Ferguson (quoted in previous article # 79)	Email correspondence from Rita Hoffman to Leeds Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit	"You are quoted as saying that 'post-secondary schools are now beginning to demand proof of vaccination as a requirement to get into residence.' Could you please give me a list of which schools have this requirement?" I did not receive a response. RH
81. Health Unit gets tough on student immunizations	Guelph Mercury May 5, 2006	"Now, the health unit is planning to get tougher on parents who don't immunize their children from diseases such as chicken pox, measles and meningitis. Starting in September, local parents will have 30 days, not three months, to comply with orders from the unit." There is no mention of exemptions in this article, and chicken pox and meningitis are not covered under the act.
82. Rubella reaches London Health officials say a Norwich-area student of a London business college has the	The London Free Press May 9, 2005 via Canoe.ca	"The MMR vaccine is publicly mandated and funded and can be refused only on medical or religion grounds he [Dr. Graham

virus.		Pollett] said. This doctor fails to inform the public that there are exemptions for reasons of conscience.
83. Students could face suspension over shots; Provincial legislation requires students get full immunization	Guelph Mercury April 6, 2005 via Toronto Star Archive	This article does mention an opt out, but if you were to read only the headline you would think all vaccines are mandatory, therefore the headline is misleading.
84. 11 Kids suspended in vaccination blitz; Children had no proof of immunization	Hamilton Spectator March 27, 2001	This article mentions exemptions for religious or medical grounds, it does not mention that exemptions for reasons of conscience are available. It also does not specify what vaccines are covered under the Act, [measles, mumps, rubella, diphtheria, tetanus polio] leaving the impression that all vaccinations are under the Act.
85. School's out for kids without vaccinations ... No school without proper shots	Oshawa This Week, May 16, 2000	No mention of exemptions in this article.