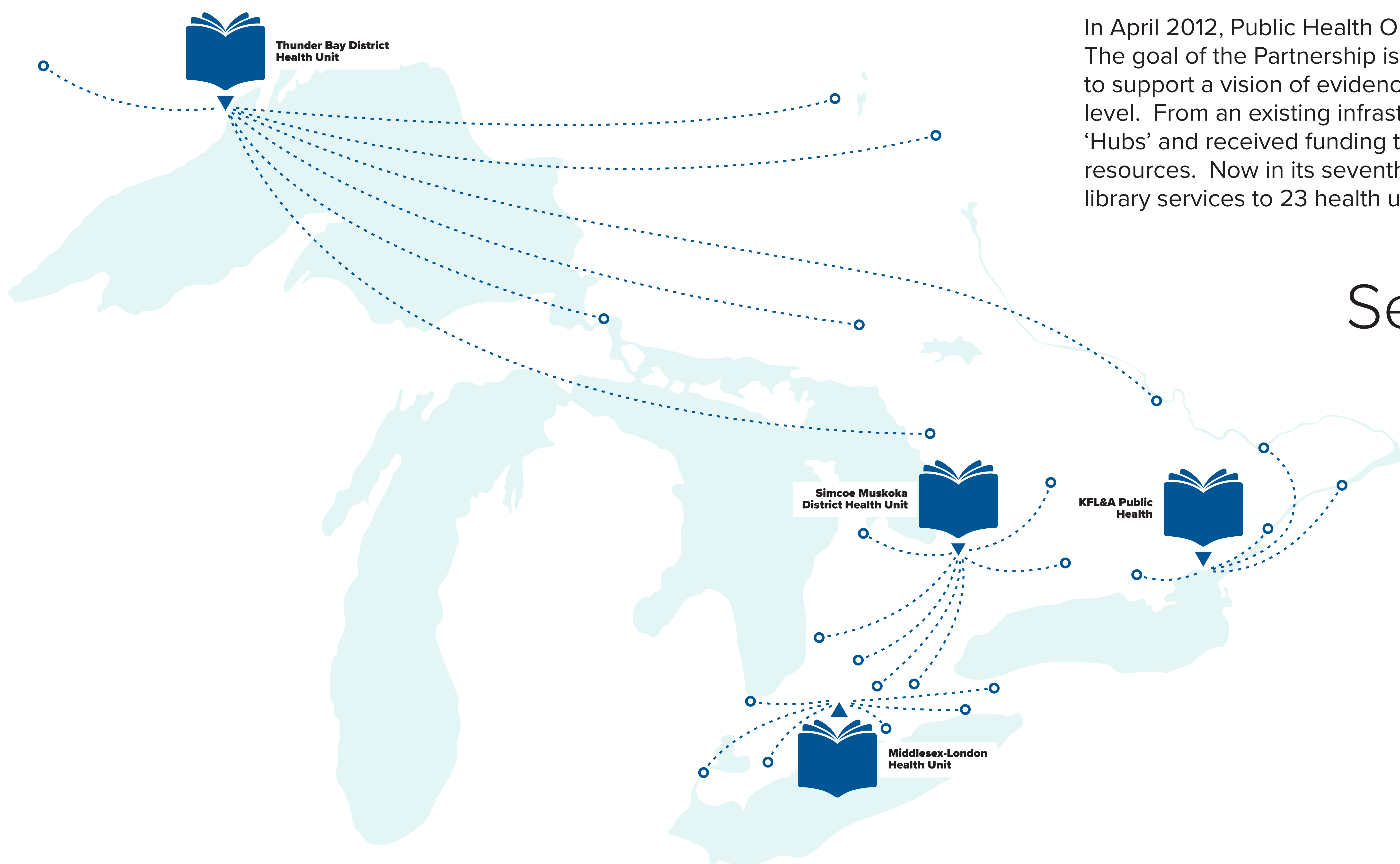


Supporting Evidence-Informed Public Health: The Evolution of the Shared Library Services Partnership (SLSP)



In April 2012, Public Health Ontario established the Shared Library Services Partnership (SLSP). The goal of the Partnership is the provision of library services to health units without libraries to support a vision of evidence-informed public health practice at the public health unit level. From an existing infrastructure of 15 public health unit libraries, four were designated 'Hubs' and received funding to ensure equitable access to a library professional and library resources. Now in its seventh year, the Partnership continues to work collaboratively to deliver library services to 23 health units across the province previously without this level of service.

Services (April 2013 to March 2019)



1,825
Literature search requests



29,663
Documents delivered



1,185
Research consultations



1,080
Reference questions



380
Training sessions



14,416
Searches conducted

August 2011
Environmental scan report

April 2012
SLSP is established

April 2014
SLSP presentation at TOPHC

February 2015
Best practices for online training

March 2016
Evaluation of the SLSP: Evaluation report

August 2017
Launch of SLSP union catalogue

March 2018
SLSP client survey for strategic plan

August 2018
Launch of SLSP.ca

Collaborative

- SharePoint
- Bi-weekly teleconferences
- Email listserv
- Annual meetings

Evidence informed

"... all respondents pointed to the importance of specialist support staff for conducting evidence and research reviews: The Shared Library Services"

Biro, S. Evidence review practices among local public health agencies in Ontario: an environmental scan. KFL&A Public Health, 2018

Standardized

- Peer reviewed search strategies
- Tracking and evaluating services
- Consistent training materials
- Shared union catalogue and website

Efficient

"94% of Hub clients satisfied with services; 93% believe the library provided materials in a timely fashion; 87% say without using the services, they would have had a difficult time accessing resources"

Public Health Ontario. Shared Library Services Partnership evaluation highlights. Toronto, [2016].

Cost effective

- Consortial purchasing of databases and journals
- Provision of interlibrary loans
- Shared products and tools

Progressive

"This has been an incredibly valuable resource ... We cannot effectively do evidence informed decision making without the services provided by the virtual library and our hub librarian."

Pulfer S. SLSP Situation Review Results – SLSP Strategic Planning 2018. MAS

Authors: Beehler J., Coles C., Comisso S., Dittburner M., Faulkner A., Gabriel C., Pach B., Younge V., and Zurich T.