



Great Lakes Border Health Initiative

Presented to Michigan's
Food & Agriculture
Border Gateway Summit,
June 29, 2011



What / Who is GLBHI?

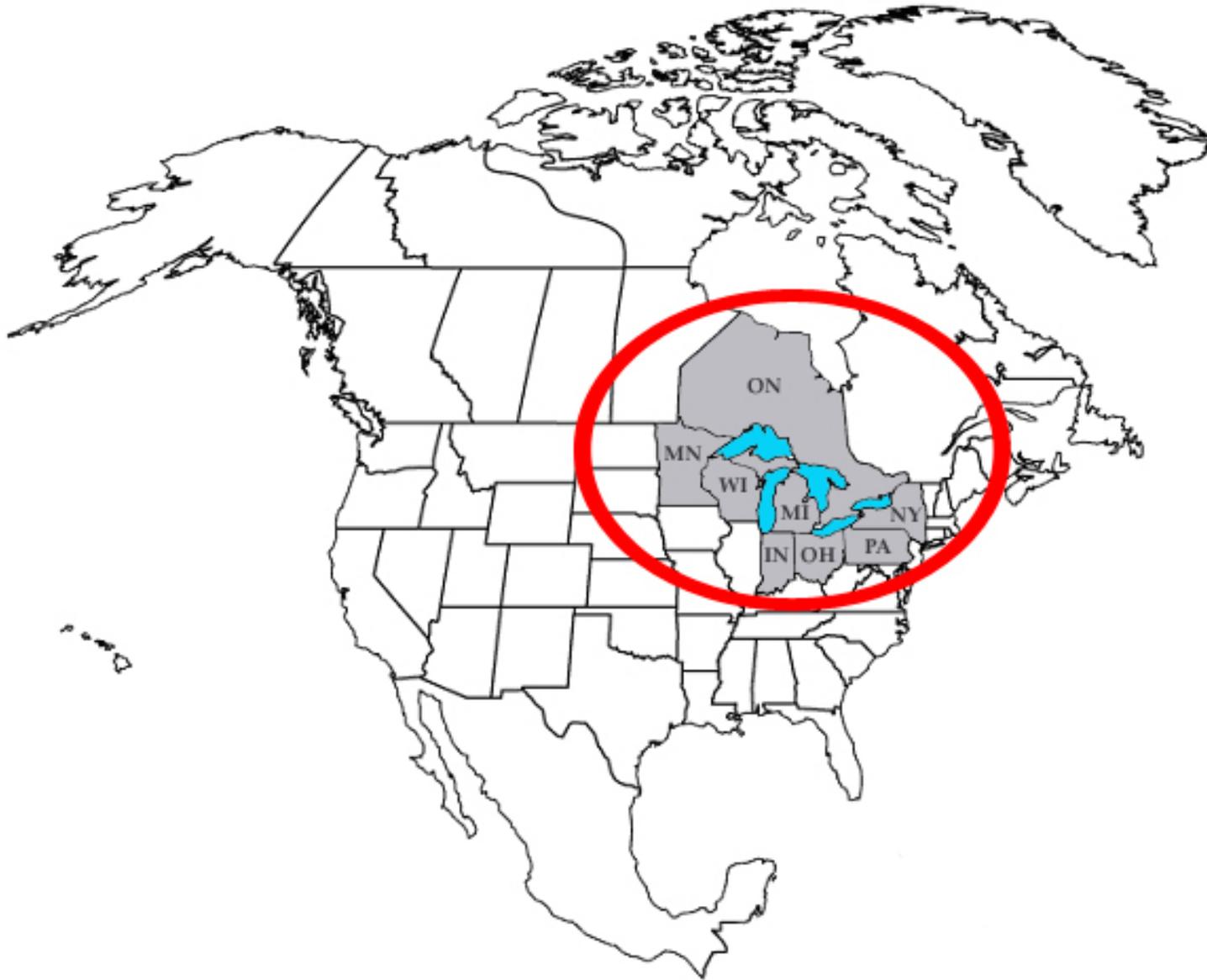
**Collaborative effort
between jurisdictions in
U.S. & Canada to enable
infectious disease
surveillance and to
facilitate communication**



- **Indiana**
- **Michigan**
- **Minnesota**
- **New York**
- **Ohio**
- **Ontario**
- **Pennsylvania**
- **Wisconsin**



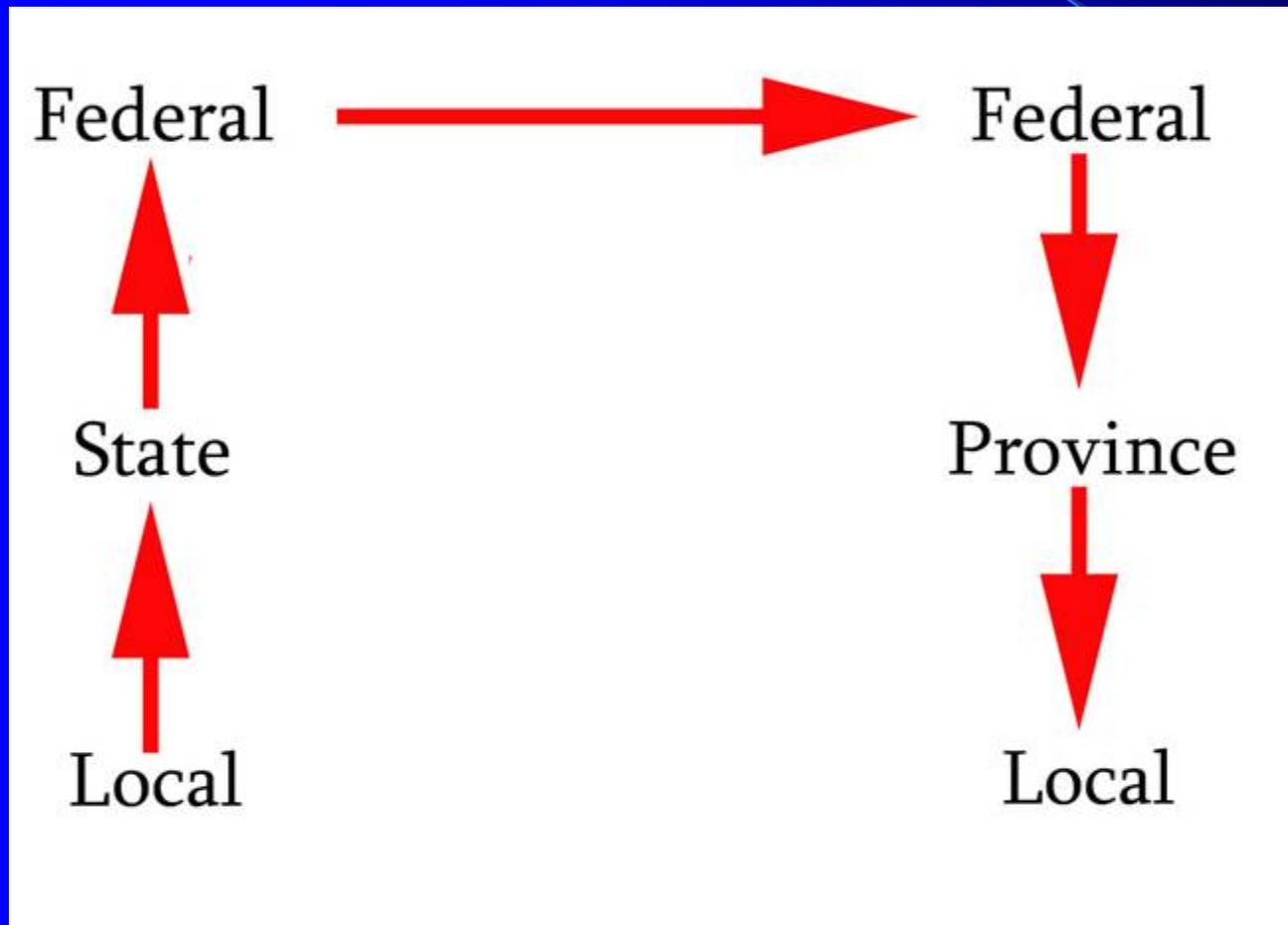
GLBHI Beginnings



**EWIDS
2004**

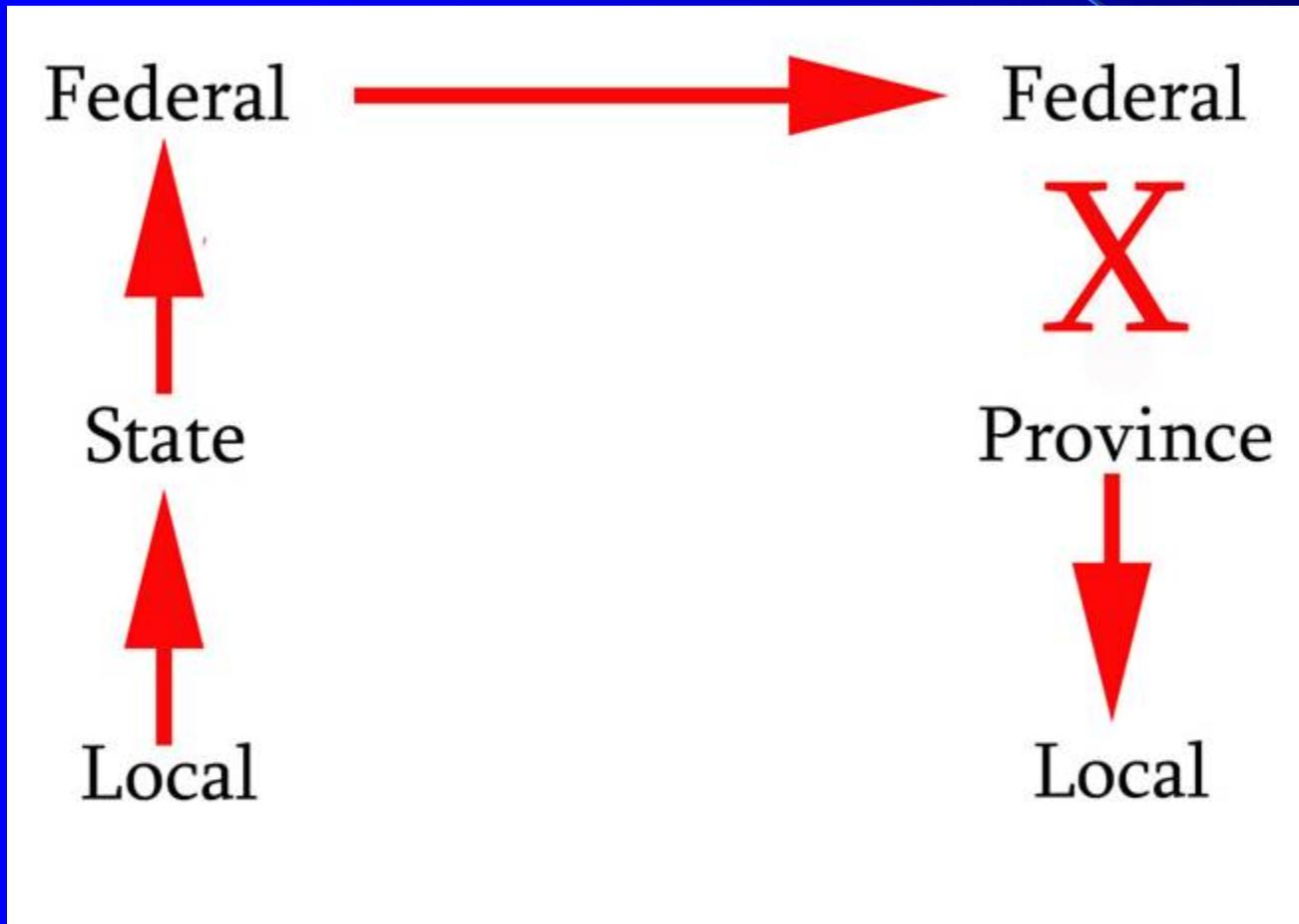


History of GLBHI



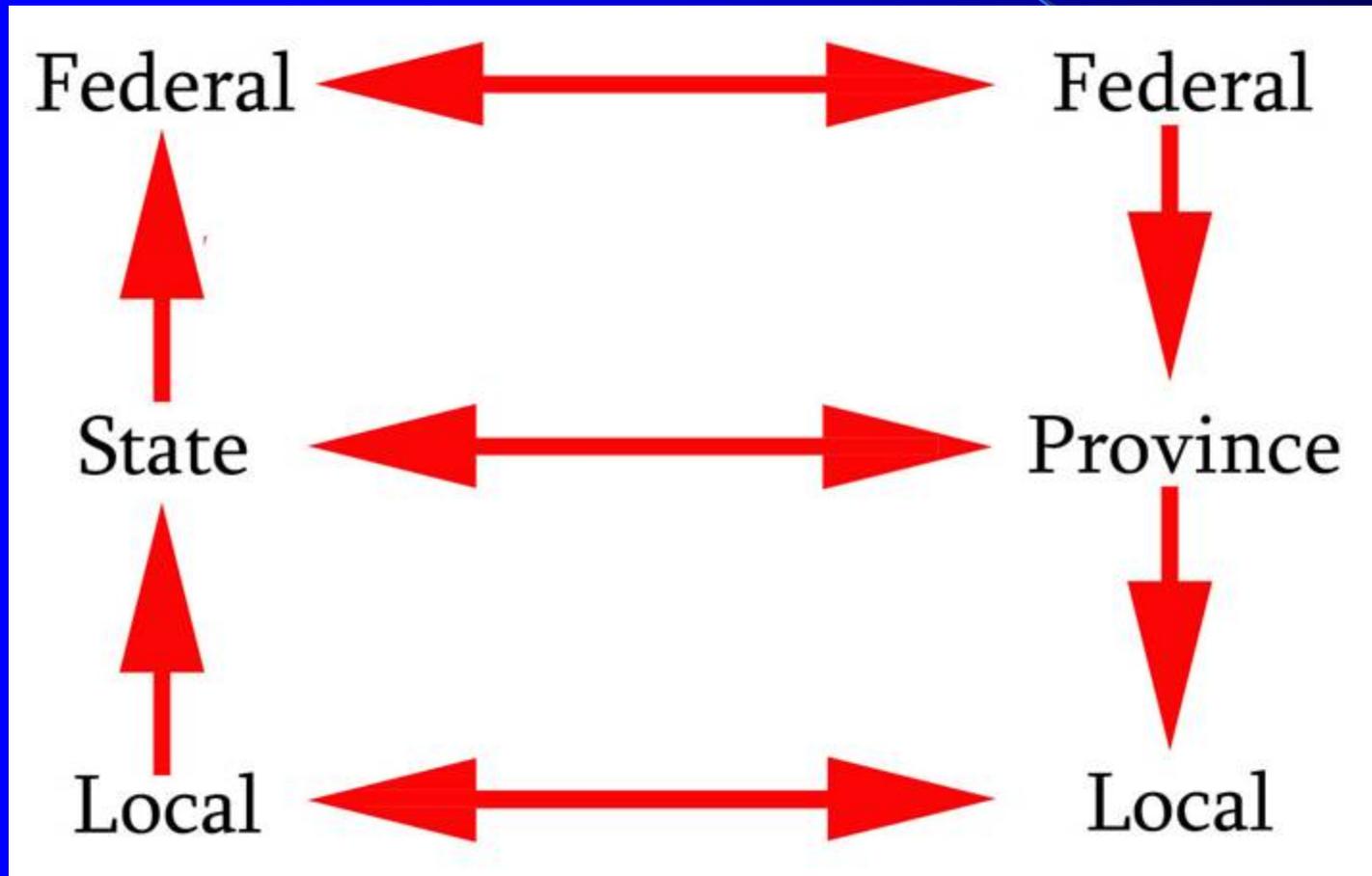
**Before
2004**

History of GLBHI



**Before
2004**

History of GLBHI



Now

History of GLBHI

● 2004

- » Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance
- » MI & Ontario
- » Border Health Initiative

● 2005

- » NY, WI & MN
- » Great Lakes Border Health Initiative

● 2006

- » MIHAN enrollment
- » OH

● 2007

- » Epi-X enrollment: ONT
- » PA & IN

● 2008

- » CNPHI enrollment: U.S.

● 2009

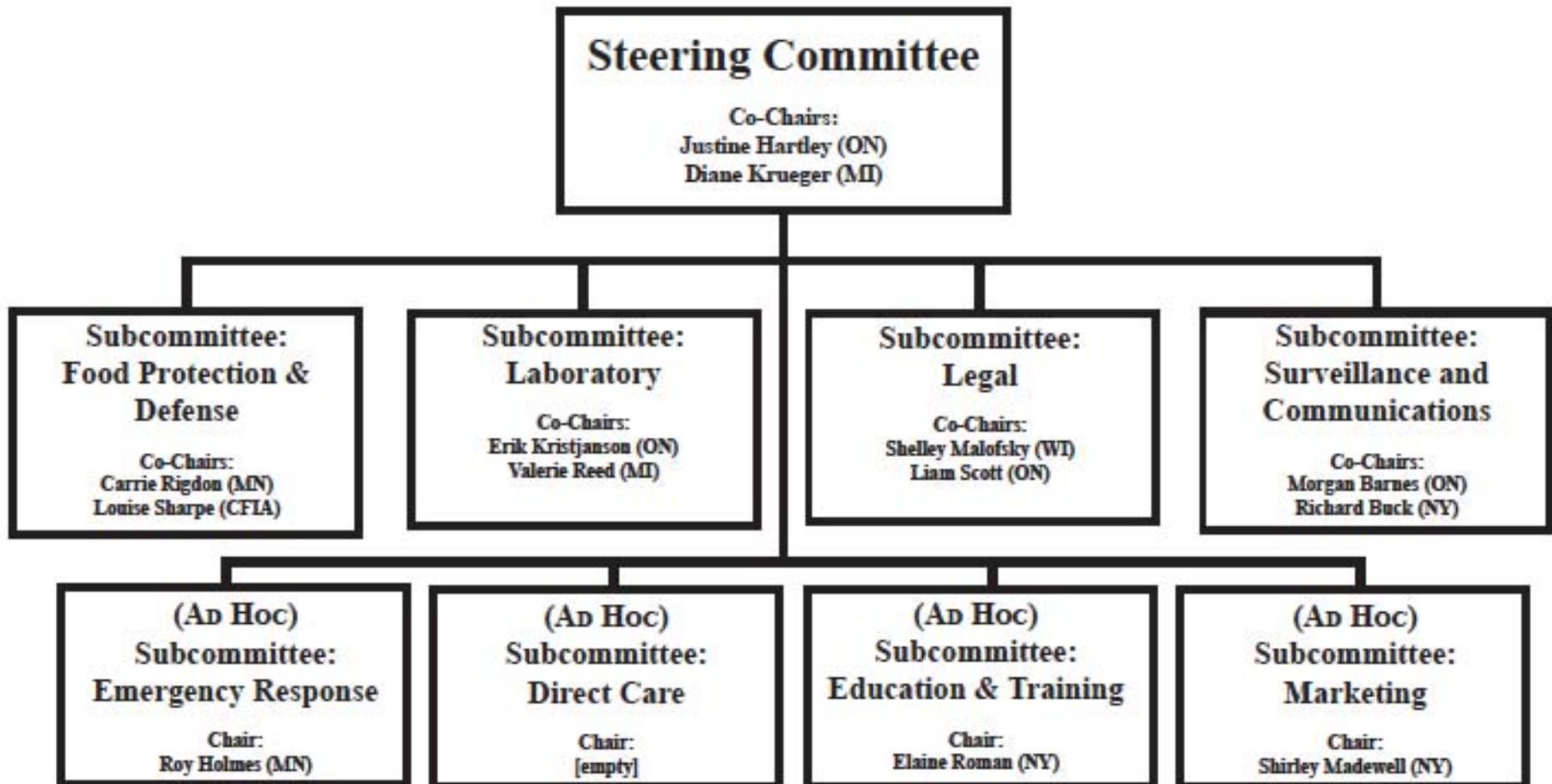
- » Documents ratified by all

● 2010

- » GLBHI assists in forming U.S.-CA Pan-Border PH Preparedness Council

GLBHI Organization

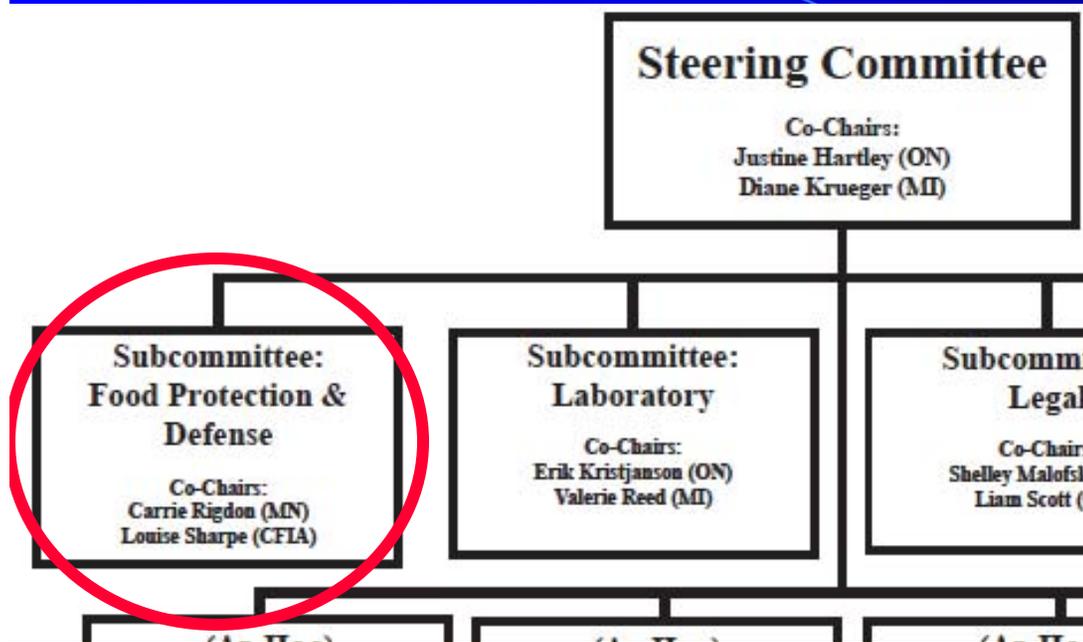
Steering Committee & Subcommittees



About the Committees

- **Members include:**
 - **State / Provincial representatives**
 - **Local public health representatives**
 - **Tribal / First Nations representatives**
 - **Federal representatives**
- **U.S. / Canadian co-chairs**
- **Scheduled to meet monthly to bi-monthly**
- **Some Cmtes are inviting and/or integrating other CA-U.S. border Initiative members**

Food Protection & Defense Subcmte



- Newest subcommittee
- Working to establish relationships and communication channels between critical partners
- Share info, such as:
 - » recent foodborne outbreaks & food/ag issues
 - » roles & responsibilities of various agencies and response teams
 - » toolkits & news items
- Use of FoodSHIELD



Collaboration Tools / Accomplishments

- Regular teleconference calls
- Face-to-face meetings
- Communication pathways
 - Federal and Local / Regional
 - Cross enrollment on U.S.'s Epi-X and Canada's CNPHI PHA national health surveillance / alerting systems
 - Tracking successes with Case Studies
- *GLBHI Public Health Data Sharing Agreement*
- *GLBHI Infectious Disease Emergency Communications Guideline*
- Website: www.michigan.gov/borderhealth
- Conducting exercises / writing After Action Reports / producing annual summaries

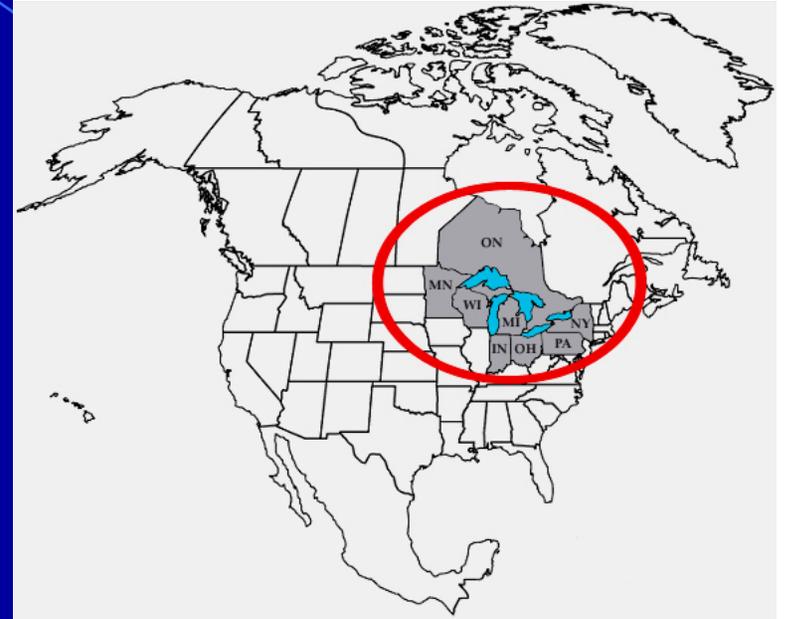
Current Projects



- **Supporting & participating in CA-U.S. Pan Border Public Health Preparedness Council**
- **Helping to develop the Great Lakes Border Region Influenza Report, in collaboration with CDC/DGMO**
- **Updating GLBHI's reportable disease directory**
- **Planning for a laboratory-centric emergency communications drill**
- **Planning for a communications drill using the CNPHI Public Health Alerting system**
- **Planning for a communication drill after hours**
- **Finalizing a generic template to track case studies and communication/collaboration successes**

Challenges

- **Dialogues with Tribes and First Nations along/near borders in GLBHI region**
- **Budget cuts affecting staffing, travel, training & meetings for GLBHI personnel, local public health, Tribal partners**
- **U.S. Department of Health & Humans Services and Public Health Agency of Canada involvement**
- **Connecting with partners horizontally**



Infectious Disease Emergency Communications Guideline



Great Lakes
Border Health Initiative

Infectious Disease
Emergency
Communications
Guideline

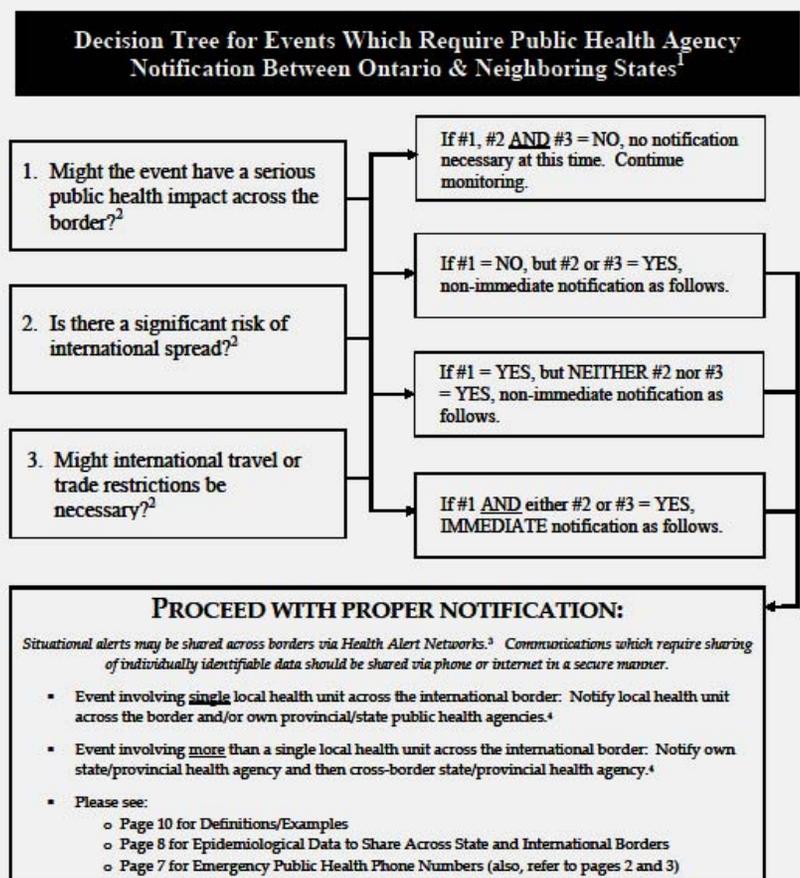
Partners

Indiana State Department of Health
Michigan Department of Community Health
Minnesota Department of Health
New York State Department of Health
Ohio Department of Health
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Pennsylvania Department of Health
Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Local Health and Tribes/First Nations
on the U.S./Canadian Border

Updated July 2010

- One of GLBHI's primary tools to assist with outbreak surveillance and communications
- *IDECEG* contains protocol for cross-border emergency notification
- Protocol based on WHO's 2005 update of the International Health Regulations

IDECEG Decision Tree for Cross-Border Notifications



- The principal component in the Communications Guideline is the Decision Tree
- Used to determine whether international cross-border notification is necessary
- Also can be used to determine if state-to-state contact should be made
- To determine notification necessity, ask 3 primary questions -- how answered determines necessity for, & timeline involved in, making a cross-border notification

¹See Appendix 2 for listing of Immediately Notifiable Diseases in all GLBHI jurisdictions. See GLBHI Reportable Disease Directory for a complete listing of all reportable diseases (available for printing at www.michigan.gov/borderhealth).

²See Definitions/Examples, Appendix 1. (Flow sheet adapted from 11/04 draft of World Health Organization's International Health Regulations. Current version, of 2005, found at: http://whqlibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241580410_eng.pdf)

³Please see Appendix 4.

⁴State & Provincial health units should consult the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations Annex 2 Decision Tree for the Assessment and Notification of Events that May Constitute a Public Health Emergency of International Concern to determine duty to report to their Federal Health Agency. See <http://www.who.int/ihr/en/>.

IDECEG Emergency Contacts



THE GREAT LAKES BORDER HEALTH INITIATIVE

Indiana • Michigan • Minnesota • New York • Ohio • Ontario • Pennsylvania • Wisconsin

www.michigan.gov/borderhealth

The Great Lakes Border Health Initiative (GLBHI) is a collaboration between the U.S. states of Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin, and the Canadian province of Ontario. GLBHI strives to improve early warning infectious disease surveillance at the United States / Canadian border by establishing a communication framework from which key cross-border relationships can be cultivated and sustained.

The Great Lakes Border Health Initiative Infectious Disease Emergency Communication Guideline provides key contact information and a notification guideline for use during cross-border infectious disease emergencies, which is based on the guidelines set forth by the World Health Organization's International Health Regulations. The Communication Guideline is a resource to be used during an emergency or exercise. Provided here are the emergency contact numbers of each GLBHI jurisdiction and key U.S. and Canadian federal partners, including quarantine stations, border and food protection.

For events that do not qualify as "infectious disease emergencies," please utilize the GLBHI website (www.michigan.gov/borderhealth) to find non-emergency phone numbers for leads for all participating jurisdictions.

Emergency Contact Numbers for Infectious Disease Events in Great Lakes Border Health Initiative Jurisdictions		
GLBHI Partners	Business Hours	After Hours
Indiana State Department of Health http://www.in.gov/isdhl	317-233-7125	317-233-1325
Michigan Department of Community Health http://www.michigan.gov/mdch	517-335-8165	517-335-9030
Minnesota Department of Health http://www.health.state.mn.us/	877-676-5414	24-hour number
New York State Department of Health http://www.health.state.ny.us/	518-473-4436 Bureau of Communicable Disease Control	1-866-881-2809 After-Hours Duty Officer
Ohio Department of Health http://www.odh.ohio.gov/	614-722-7221	24-hour number
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care Ministère de la santé et des soins de longue durée http://www.health.gov.on.ca/	416-212-6361 / 416-212-6362	416-325-3000
Pennsylvania Department of Health http://www.health.state.pa.us	717-787-3350	24-hour number
Wisconsin Division of Public Health http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/	608-267-9003	608-258-0099 Ask for Communicable Disease Epidemiologist on call
Federal Quarantine Stations U.S. / Canada		
CDC-Quarantine Stations (24-hour numbers) / http://www.cdc.gov/quarantine/index.html		
New York City / JFK Airport (NY)		718-553-1685
Detroit Metro Airport (MI, OH)		734-955-6197
Philadelphia International Airport (PA)		215-365-6401
Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport (MN)		612-725-3005
CDC Emergency Operations Center http://emergency.cdc.gov/emcontact/		770-488-7100
Public Health Agency of Canada –Quarantine Services / Agence de santé publique du Canada – Services de quarantaine (24-hour numbers) http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/		
Ottawa International Airport / Aéroport international d'Ottawa		613-949-1565
Lester B. Pearson International Airport (Toronto) / Aéroport international d'Toronto Pearson		416-315-5039
Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) Duty Officer		800-545-7661

- Phone numbers: business & after-hours
- Website addresses
 - » State & Provincial depts. of health
 - » Federal quarantine stations – U.S. & CA
 - » Border services – U.S. & CA
 - » CFIA
 - » U.S. FDA

IDECG Immediately Notifiable Disease List

Appendix 2: Immediately* Notifiable Disease List

Respect jurisdictional requests for immediate notification as outlined below. Each jurisdiction will apply their own (as opposed to CDC / PHAC) jurisdictional case definitions when determining whether to notify. See the *GLBHI Reportable Diseases Directory* for a listing of all reportable diseases in GLBHI jurisdictions.

Disease/Agent	IN	MI	MN	NY	OH	ON	PA	WI
Anthrax	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Arboviral Disease				X			X	
Avian Influenza - human	X	X	X		X			
Botulism	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brucellosis		X	X	X		X		
Cholera			X	X	X		X	X
Cryptosporidiosis						X		
Cyclosporiasis						X		
Diphtheria	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Encephalitis - viral				X				
Food Poisoning - all						X		
Foodborne or Waterborne Outbreaks	X		X				X	X
Gastrointestinal illness - institutional outbreaks			X			X		X
Glanders		X	X	X				
<i>Haemophilus Influenzae</i> Disease - invasive		X					X	X
Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome				X		X	X	X
HUS - post-diarrheal			X			X		
Hepatitis A						X		X
Measles	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Melioidosis		X		X				
Meningitis - bacterial (not meningococcal)						X		
Meningococcal Disease	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Monkeypox		X	X	X				
Orthopox		X	X					

- Epi-developed list
- A subset of GLBHI's *Reportable Disease Directory*
- “Pick up the phone and call now” diseases
- Trumps the Decision Tree

GLBHI's *Public Health Data Sharing Agreement*

- Another important product from GLHBI; another primary tool to assist with outbreak surveillance & communications
- Purpose: to enable the sharing of infectious disease data between all GLBHI signatories
- Subject to all health data laws applicable the partner jurisdictions
- Prior to signatures, all State / Provincial health information privacy laws & policies subjected to a thorough legal review

Great Lakes
Border Health Initiative

Public Health
Data Sharing
Agreement

Partners

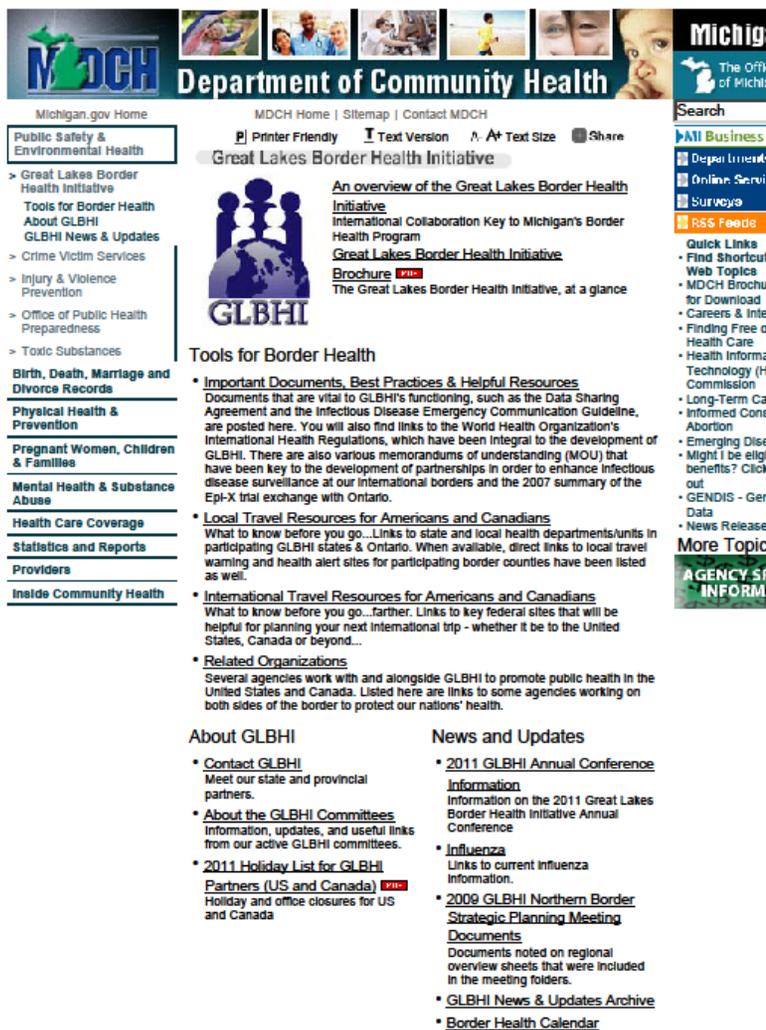
Michigan Department of Community Health
Minnesota Department of Health
New York State Department of Health
Ohio Department of Health
Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
Pennsylvania Department of Health
Wisconsin Division of Public Health
Local Health and Tribes/First Nations
on the US/Canadian Border

Updated February 2009



GLBHI Website:

www.michigan.gov/borderhealth

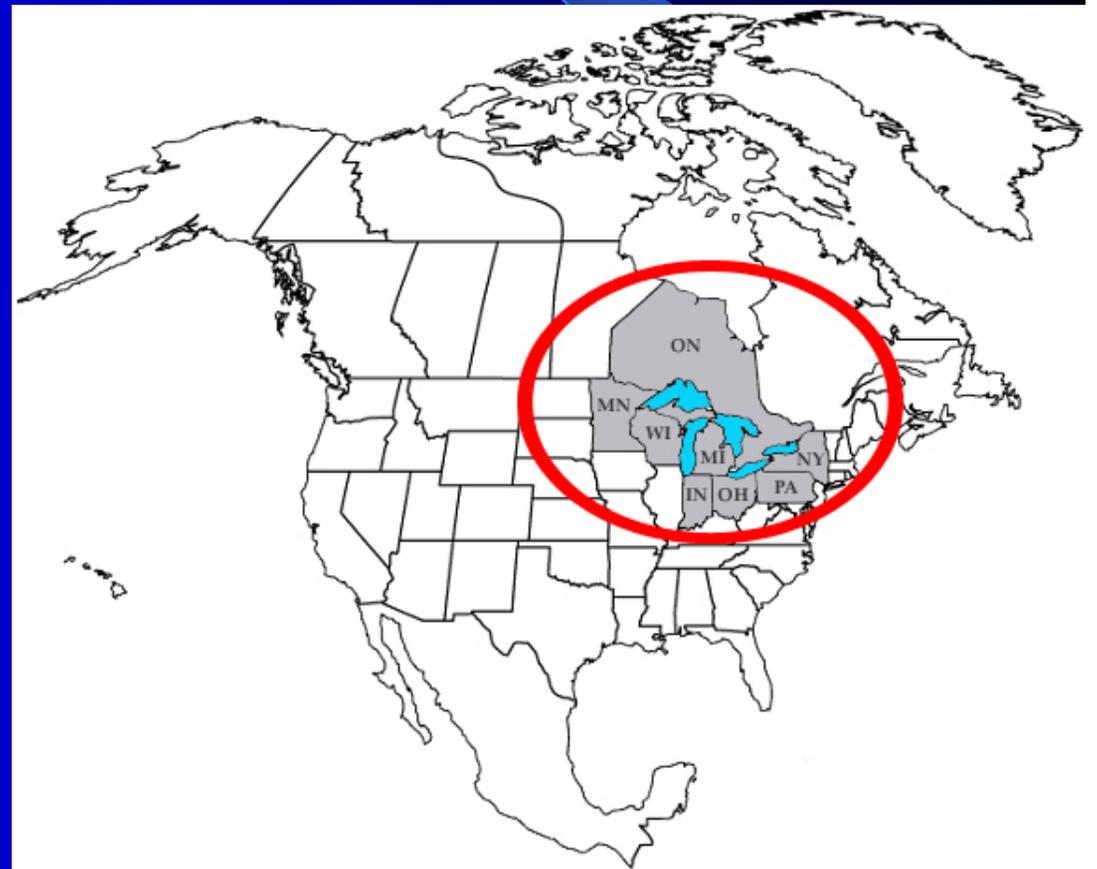


The screenshot shows the Michigan Department of Community Health website. The main navigation bar includes 'Michigan.gov Home', 'MDCH Home', 'Sitemap', and 'Contact MDCH'. The 'Great Lakes Border Health Initiative' section is highlighted, featuring a logo with three stylized figures and the text 'An overview of the Great Lakes Border Health Initiative'. Below this, there are sections for 'Tools for Border Health', 'About GLBHI', and 'News and Updates'. The 'Tools for Border Health' section includes links for 'Important Documents, Best Practices & Helpful Resources', 'Local Travel Resources for Americans and Canadians', and 'International Travel Resources for Americans and Canadians'. The 'About GLBHI' section includes links for 'Contact GLBHI', 'About the GLBHI Committees', and '2011 Holiday List for GLBHI Partners (US and Canada)'. The 'News and Updates' section includes links for '2011 GLBHI Annual Conference Information', 'Influenza', '2009 GLBHI Northern Border Strategic Planning Meeting Documents', 'GLBHI News & Updates Archive', and 'Border Health Calendar'.

- Another useful tool provided by GLBHI
- Relevant & useful information related to GLBHI and cross-border disease surveillance
- On main webpage:
 - » overall explanation of GLBHI
 - » small brochure
 - » informational snapshot
 - » names & contact info for St/Prov Leads
 - » much more

Case Studies & Cross-Border Alerting

Cross-Border
Alerting
Examples



GLBHI in Action – Recent Examples

- Ontario Hockey Teams Visit, Nov.-Dec. 2009
- Raw Milk *Campylobacter* Outbreak, March 2010
- Pertussis Exposure Event in Michigan, July 2010
- Tall Ships GI Outbreak, July 2010
- *E. coli* in Hamburger, Aug.-Sept. 2010
- *Cryptosporidium* at Ontario Indoor Water Park, Nov.-Dec. 2010

- Responses:

- » immediate contact through established GLBHI contacts (*IDECG*)
- » sharing of relevant data (*Data Sharing Agreement*)
- » use of communication pathways (PHAs/HANs)



GLBHI in Action – Example 1

- **Ontario Hockey Teams Visit, Nov.-Dec. 2009**

- **Event:**

- » **GLBHI partners shared info about a GI outbreak in two Ontario hockey teams that participated in a banquet in SE Michigan, late fall 2009.**
- » **MI GLBHI Lead contacted Ontario GLBHI Lead, as notification to MOHLTC of outbreak, and for assessment for need of a CNPHI PHA.**
- » **CNPHI PHA sent to pertinent health districts in Ontario.**
- » **Additional cases identified, but cause of outbreak not determined.**



GLBHI in Action – Example 2

- **Raw Milk *Campylobacter* Outbreak, March 2010**

- **Event:**

- » GLBHI partners involved in sharing info about a *Campylobacter* outbreak linked to consumption of raw milk products, March 2010.
- » MDCH epis worked to confirm illnesses due to *Campylobacter*, linked to consumption of raw milk products from a farm coop in SW MI that obtained raw milk product from a dairy farm in IN.
- » MI GLBHI Lead shared health alert with IN and OH GLBHI Leads.



GLBHI in Action – Example 3

● **Pertussis Exposure Event in Michigan, July 2010**

● **Event:**

- » **GLBHI partners shared info about Pertussis exposure, July 2010.**
- » **MDCH learned of a child, a MI university class attendee, June 29 - July 1, diagnosed with Pertussis & infectious while attending. Class attendance, and potential exposures, over 900 people.**
- » **MDCH issued a MIHAN notice regarding the potential exposures.**
- » **MDCH learned of 2 Ontario individuals in class.**
- » **MI GLBHI Lead contacted Ontario GLBHI Lead, as notification to MOHLTC of outbreak; MOHLTC contacted local public health units where the Ontario residents reside; local public health units contacted / followed up with the residents.**



GLBHI in Action – Example 4

- **Tall Ships GI Outbreak, July 2010**

- **Event:**

- » CDC Detroit Quarantine Station notifies MI GLBHI Lead of GI illness on board tall ship, now docked in Bay City; asks for help in gathering partners on conference call to share details, mid July 2010.
- » MI GLBHI Lead discusses info known to date with MI State Epi, and contacts PA and OH GLBHI Leads, among others.
- » Call is set up and includes MDCH epis, Detroit Quarantine Station, Philadelphia Quarantine Station, PA Dept. of Health, OH Dept. of Health, Bay Co. HD (MI), Erie Co. HD (PA).
- » 24 of 44 Cleveland Race crew ill w/ abdominal cramps, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting; epis on call don't think this is Norovirus.
- » Later determined chicken dinner had sat at room temp., with a 94% attack rate.

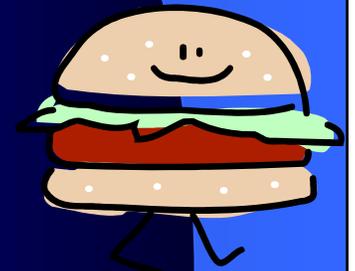


GLBHI in Action – Example 5

- *E. coli* in Hamburger, Aug.-Sept. 2010

- **Event:**

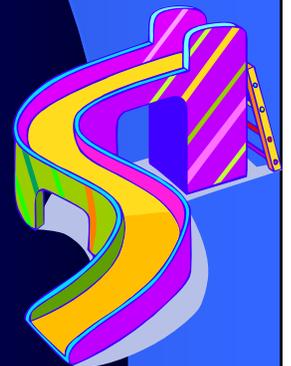
- » Illnesses reported over Labor Day weekend in Ontario and Erie County, NY – unknown to each other.
- » ONT sends out CNPHI PHA, and NYSDOH staff note possible connection.
- » Based on weight of evidence of all cases taken together, plus cross-border concern, recall of ground beef patties is issued.
- » Positive food sample result reported Sept. 10.



GLBHI in Action – Example 6

- ***Cryptosporidium* at Ontario Indoor Water Park, Nov.-Dec. 2010**

- **Event:**
 - » **Niagara Region, Ontario begins investigation into potential Crypto outbreak at indoor water park.**
 - » **CNPHI PHA received by GLBHI partners in NY.**
 - » **Epi interview questionnaire by ONT Niagara Region PH shared with NY.**
 - » **NY case confirmed and epi-linked to ONT outbreak.**
 - » **All partners assisted with/reviewed Epi-X alert posted by CDC.**



Cross-Border Alerting

- Both formal & informal are important
- Documentation can help illustrate GLBHI's strengths



Thank you!

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