

**Title:** Intestinal Toxemia Botulism in Durham Region

**Speakers:** Ross MacEachern, Manager IDPC and Sherri Deamond, Epidemiologist, Durham Region Health Department

**Date:** Wed, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**Time:** 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**Place:** Boardroom #3 at OMAF & MRA Building (1 Stone Rd Guelph)

*No registration is required.  
Please invite all interested colleagues.  
Please see attachment for abstract and speaker bios*



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## **Abstract: Intestinal Toxemia Botulism in Durham Region**

Presentation will provide a brief summary of an investigation into a case of intestinal toxemia botulism in Durham Region that was one of five cases identified within an 18 – month period in or near Toronto. Of particular interest involving the case from Durham Region is that peanut butter from the residence of the case yielded *C.botulinum* type A, which corresponded with type A spores found in the patient’s feces. Two of the cases, including the case from our Region, had Crohn disease and had undergone previous bowel surgery, which may have contributed to infection with *C. botulinum*. These cases reinforce the view that an underlying gastrointestinal condition is a risk factor for adult intestinal toxemia botulism.

### **Biography:**

**Ross MacEachern, BA, CPHI(C)**  
**Durham Region Health Department**  
**Manager, Environmental Health**

Ross has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from St. Francis Xavier University, and studied Environmental Health at Ryerson University, receiving his Certificate in Public Health Inspection in 1987. He began his public health career as a field inspector in 1987 with Peel Region, and later moved east joining the former City of Scarborough Health Department where he remained from 1988 to 2000. Since 2000, Ross has been a Manager of Environmental Health for the Durham Region Health Department and has been responsible for a variety of programs including Rabies Prevention & Control, West Nile virus as well as his current portfolio, Manager for the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control Program - EH Division.

### **Biography:**

**Sherri Deamond**

Sherri has worked as an Epidemiologist at the Durham Region Health Department since 2002. She has also worked as an Epidemiologist at the Central East Health Information Partnership (CEHIP), one of Ontario’s Health Intelligence Units, and at Toronto Public Health (previously Scarborough Health Department). Her main area of focus is infectious disease epidemiology. Sherri holds a Master of Health Science in Community Health and Epidemiology from the University of Toronto. She is a past-President and past-Vice President of the Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario (APHEO).