Rabies Risk
In December 2015, the raccoon strain of the rabies virus re-emerged in Ontario. Currently, 297 raccoons, foxes and skunks in Ontario have tested positive for rabies. The majority of confirmed cases of rabies have been among wildlife in the Hamilton area. Other areas with confirmed cases of rabies are Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton Region, Niagara Region, Perth County and Brant County. Careful assessment must be undertaken with patients who have had exposure to wildlife and domestic animals in this area. As rabies is a fatal disease, post-exposure treatment should not be delayed.

Duty to Report
Public Health would like to remind you to please report all animal bites or other incidents of animal contact to Public Health’s Rabies Control program. (Duty to Report, Ontario Regulation 557, Section 2 [1] under the Health Protection and Promotion Act.)

Reporting Bites and Contact Incidents
When you are reporting a bite or contact incident, please do one of the following:

1. Fill out the attached Rabies Exposure Report and fax the completed form to 1-855-934-5463.

OR

2. Call to leave a detailed message for a Public Health Inspector:
   Monday-Friday (8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.) 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4753
   After Hours/Holidays 1-877-884-8653

Treating Exposures
For treatment guidelines, refer to the following attachment:

- Rabies Vaccine and Immune Globulin Information

For more information, refer to contact:
Name/Title: Jessica Morris, Manager, Environmental Health
Phone: 1-800-265-7293 ext. 4231
Website: www.wdgpublichealth.ca