

2004 alpha RESOLUTION NO. A04-9

TITLE: Public Health Impact Statement Requirements

SPONSOR: Board of Directors of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario is responsible under the Constitution Act for legislative matters pertaining to the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS programs as administered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care have continuously risen to presently account for 45% of the Government of Ontario's entire annual program budget; and

WHEREAS the current Government of Ontario has set a goal of making Ontario's citizens the healthiest in Canada; and

WHEREAS the current Government of Ontario has acknowledged the importance of prevention services (i.e. health protection and promotion, disease prevention and surveillance) and has committed to strengthening the public health system that provides them in order to achieve that goal; and

WHEREAS an effective public health system is essential to preserve and enhance the health status of the population and its individuals, to reduce health disparities and to reduce the costs of curative health services (Naylor, 2003:19); and

WHEREAS a central component of the public health system's approach to prevention is the recognition of the health impacts of a wide range and interaction of social, political, economic, environmental, natural and other factors; and

WHEREAS the above factors may be influenced by or originate from the policies of any Ministry or Agency of the Government of Ontario; and

WHEREAS the Association of Local Public Health Agencies has previously called upon the Government of Ontario to establish province-wide health goals with concomitant requirements and standards for all ministries as per *alPHa Resolution A03-1*;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario immediately require that public health impact analysis statements be a component of Cabinet Submissions prepared by any Ministry of Government.

Action from Conference: **Moved:** **A. Hukowich (Haliburton, Kawartha)**
 Seconded: **I. Parkes (Northwestern)**
 Carried