

Hon. Jim Flaherty,
Minister of Enterprise, Opportunity and Innovation
8th Floor, Hearst Block
900 Bay St.
Toronto ON M7A 2E1

September 8, 2003

Honourable Minister,

RE: Resolutions from alPHa Annual Conference (June 8=10, 2003)

On behalf of member Medical Officers of Health, Boards of Health, and Affiliate organizations of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), I am writing to introduce a Resolution endorsed this past June by our membership for consideration and anticipated action by your ministry. A copy is enclosed for your information.

No. A03-3 Helicobacter Pylori and Gastric Cancer Prevention

Stomach cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related mortality worldwide; and *H. pylori* has been identified as an associated risk factor. Given the poor prognosis once stomach cancer has been diagnosed, and given the prevalence of *H. pylori* (which can be easily detected through non-invasive tests and whose effective treatment is known), alPHa is urging the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) and Ontario Ministry of Enterprise, Opportunity and Innovation to consider funding a project to evaluate the merits of a screening and treatment protocol.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to a reply at your earliest convenience.



Andrew Papadopoulos, BAsC, MBA
Executive Director

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