

**alPHa Resolution A06-5**

**TITLE:** Boarding or Lodging Homes

**SPONSOR:** Durham Regional Council

**WHEREAS** medical officers of health and municipal staff are required to inspect boarding or lodging houses, including rest and retirement homes, with respect to public health and fire & property standards respectively; and

**WHEREAS** boarding or lodging houses are not required to be registered with medical officers of health or municipalities; and

**WHEREAS** the health and wellbeing of residents of substandard boarding or lodging houses may be at risk, in part because the lack of registration may lead to ineffective medical officer of health and municipal inspection and enforcement; and

**WHEREAS** the provision of personal care in boarding or lodging houses is unregulated in Ontario; and

**WHEREAS** medical officers of health have no powers to inspect or resolve concerns related to the quality of personal care in boarding or lodging houses; and

**WHEREAS** the last time the Government of Ontario formally studied unregulated residential accommodation was in 1991 when it struck the Commission of Inquiry that reported in 1992; and

**WHEREAS** successive provincial governments have never implemented the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, including those that addressed personal care and safety

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** alPHa urge the Government of Ontario to review the need to regulate boarding or lodging houses, including rest and retirement homes;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this review include but not be limited to the following:

- a) The applicability of the recommendations of the 1992 Commission of Inquiry into Unregulated Residential Accommodation
- b) The need for boarding and lodging houses to register with medical officers of health and municipalities on a mandatory basis
- c) The setting of mandatory minimum standards for personal care in boarding or lodging houses that provide such care for their residents
- d) The role of medical officers of health with respect to the inspection and enforcement of such personal care standards
- e) ~~The Spring 2006 Budget Review.~~

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Health and Long Term Care, Municipal Affairs and Housing and Responsible for Seniors, the Chief Medical Officer of Health the City of Toronto and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario are so advised.

**1) Action from June 2006 alPHa Annual Conference:**

**MOTION:** *L. O'Connor (BOH, Durham)*

*SECOND:* K. Gorman (ASPHIO, Durham)  
*MOTION ON AMENDMENT:* F.Scott (MOH, Toronto)  
*SECOND:* V. Sterling (BOH, Toronto)  
*MOTION FOR REFERRAL:* J. Virdiramo (BOH, Thunder Bay)  
*SECOND:* B. Smirle (BOH, Eastern)

*Referral of Resolution CARRIED*

**2) Action from September 29, 2006 Meeting of the alPHa Board of Directors:**

*MOTION TO ADOPT with amendment (see above):* L. O'Connor (BOH, Durham Region)  
*SECOND:* G. Hebert (BOH, Porcupine)  
***MOTION CARRIED***