

**alPHa RESOLUTION A07-2**

**TITLE:** Childhood Obesity and Trans Fats

**SPONSOR:** Durham Regional Council

**WHEREAS** from 1978 to 2004, overweight/obesity rates doubled from 13% to 26% for children aged 6 to 11 years and from 14% to 29% for adolescents aged 12 to 17 years; and

**WHEREAS** 55% of First Nations children and 41% of Aboriginal children and adolescents living off-reserve are either overweight or obese; and

**WHEREAS** there is a major gap between the reality and the perception of Canadian parents about the weight of their children; and

**WHEREAS** as the overweight children of today become tomorrow's obese adults, the burden on the health care and social systems is expected to increase; and

**WHEREAS** obesity costs Canada about \$1.6 billion annually in direct health care costs, or 2.4% of total health care spending; and

**WHEREAS** obesity costs Canada about \$2.7 billion in indirect costs including lost productivity, disability insurance, reduced quality of life and mental health problems due to stigmatization and poor self-esteem; and

**WHEREAS** the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health has studied this matter and released its report and recommendations "*Healthy Weights for Healthy Kids*" in March 2007; and

**WHEREAS** Health Canada's multi-stakeholder Trans Fat Task Force studied the trans fat component of Canada's obesity epidemic and released its report and recommendations in June 2006;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** alPHa urges the Government of Canada to respond to "*Healthy Weights for Healthy Kids*" and the Trans Fat Task Force reports and implement their recommendations as quickly as possible;

**AND FURTHER THAT** the Prime Minister of Canada, Ministers of Finance Canada, Health Canada, Heritage Canada, Human Resources and Social Development Canada, Infrastructure Canada, Chief Public Health Officer of Canada, Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Education, Finance, Health and Long-Term Care, Health Promotion and Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.

**MOTION:** R. KYLE (Durham)

**SECOND:** K. GORMAN (Durham)

**Resolution: CARRIED**