

alPHa RESOLUTION A07-6

TITLE: Advocate for a Provincial Strategy to Address Substance Use

SPONSOR: Toronto Public Health

WHEREAS the Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse estimates that in 2002 the total costs associated with substance use in Canada (all substances including tobacco) were \$39.9 billion, or \$1,267 per capita; and

WHEREAS public health agencies have a direct mandate in several key areas related to the use of alcohol and other drugs, specifically: chronic disease prevention, injury prevention, substance abuse prevention and harm reduction such as needle exchange; and

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario does not have a comprehensive strategy to reduce the harms of alcohol and other drug use; and

WHEREAS the Health Education and Enforcement Partnership (HEP) in Ontario has secured broad sector-wide support to develop a comprehensive provincial drug strategy based on the four components of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and enforcement;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Local Public Health Agencies request that the provincial government develop a comprehensive provincial strategy for alcohol and other drugs based on the four components of prevention, harm reduction, treatment and enforcement, in collaboration with the Ontario Health Education and Enforcement Partnership (HEP) initiative.

MOTION: C. TIMMINGS (Toronto)

SECOND: V. STERLING (Toronto)

Resolution: CARRIED