

To: Chairs and Members of Boards of Health
Medical and Associate Medical Officers of Health
alPHA Board of Directors
Presidents of Affiliate Organizations

Subject: **2007 alPHa Annual Conference - Final Information Package**

Date: May 25, 2007

Dear Member of alPHA,

Enclosed is the final conference package for Public Health Connects, the 2007 alPHA Annual Conference, which will be held from June 10 to 12 at the Hilton Windsor, 277 Riverside Drive West, downtown Windsor, ON. Please find attached the following:

- conference flyer (**UPDATED**)
- final Program-At-A-Glance (**UPDATED**)
- delegate information (**NEW**)
- registration form
- information on social events, incl. Spouse/Guest program (**UPDATED**)
- draft agenda of June 11 Annual Business Meeting (**NEW**)
- (for Board of Health members only) draft agenda of June 11 BOH Section Meeting (**NEW**)

Please note that the agenda for the June 11 COMOH meeting will be e-mailed under separate cover. The final agenda of the Annual Business Meeting will be included in the delegates' folders at the conference.

We hope you will join us in Windsor for an exciting program and events, such as the Distinguished Service Awards banquet where we will present to the following award recipients:

- ❖ **Dr. Sheela Basrur**, Past Chief Medical Officer of Health
- ❖ **Gil Hebert**, Member, Porcupine Board of Health
- ❖ **Dale Jackson**, Director of Administration, Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit
- ❖ **Jim Paton**, Retired, Director, Health Protection, Grey Bruce Health Unit
- ❖ **Dr. Pete Sarsfield**, Medical Officer of Health, Northwestern Health Unit

If you have not yet registered for the conference, please complete a Conference Registration Form by June 1st and send it to the alPHA office along with a cheque payable to the Association of Local Public Health Agencies. To reserve your accommodations, call the Hilton Windsor directly toll-free at **1-877-973-7829** or **(519) 973-5555** and indicate you are part of the alPHA Conference.

From the desk of...

Please note that if you are registering as a **Full Delegate** (whether you are the first, second, third or fourth, etc.) or as a **Guest Program** participant, your fee *includes* the cost of the Monday Awards Dinner and you do not need to pay the extra \$70+tax for this meal. The extra charge for the dinner applies **only** to one-day registrations and guests who are not participating in the Guest Program but who would like to attend the Awards Dinner.

Susan Lee
Manager, Administrative and
Association Services
alPHA
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2007 alPHa Annual Conference

Public Health *Connects*

Collaborating and Communicating in Times of Reform



Sunday, June 10 to Tuesday, June 12, 2007

Hilton Windsor
277 Riverside Drive West
Windsor ON N9A 5K4
www.windsor.hilton.com

As Ontario's public health system continues on its path of renewal, health units have a tremendous opportunity to develop new connections and working relationships with potential partners to achieve common public health goals. Those linkages and partnerships can, and often do, contribute significantly to improving the overall health of the population. They ensure that a continuum of services is provided in communities, attract funding and other resources, and influence government policy for better public health. But in order to affect good public policy, health units must employ successful advocacy skills and strategies. *Public Health Connects* focuses on two aspects of connecting with others – the collaborative efforts all health units should engage in and the communications they need to use to reach their goals.

At this conference

- learn how public health can work together with organizations such as LHINs and what you can do in your local area
- learn how to use the media successfully to communicate your message
- learn effective strategies for advocating the government

This event is for all Medical Officers of Health, Associate Medical Officers of Health, Board of Health members and Senior Public Health Managers (i.e. members of ANDSOOHA, AOPHBA, APHEO, ASPHIO, HPO, OAPHD, OSNPPH) across Ontario.

The *Public Health Connects* conference includes constituent-specific general meetings, the Annual Business Meeting of alPHa as well as the Resolutions Session. It's a great educational and networking opportunity for public health officials.

Sponsors: *Mosey & Mosey Benefit Plan Consultants*
Frank Cowan Company

**REGISTER
NOW!**

**Deadline is
June 1, 2007**

**2007 aPHa Annual Conference:
Final Program at a Glance (as of May 25)**



Sunday, June 10	Monday, June 11	Tuesday, June 12
<p>5:00 - 7:30 pm Registration</p> <hr/> <p>5:30 - 7:00 pm aPHa Board of Directors Meeting</p> <hr/> <p>Dinner - on your own</p> <hr/> <p>7:30 - 9:30 pm Welcoming Reception for Delegates and Guests (on site) <i>Featuring local entertainment</i></p>	<p>7:30 am Registration and Breakfast</p> <hr/> <p>8:35 am Opening General Session Welcome by aPHa President and local Windsor-Essex County dignitaries</p> <hr/> <p>8:45 am Keynote Address by Marg Rappolt, Deputy Minister of Health Promotion</p> <hr/> <p>9:30 am Plenary: Public Health Connects - Example from the Field Session on how stakeholders from public health, provincial organizations and government are collaborating on Cancer and the Environment Speakers: Deb Keen, Director, Prevention Unit, Cancer Care Ontario John Wellner, Director, Health Policy, Ontario Medical Association</p> <hr/> <p>10:15 am Health Break</p> <hr/> <p>10:35 am Plenary Panel Discussion: LHINs and Public Health - Session on how public health and LHINs can work together <i>Moderator:</i> Liana Nolan, aPHa President <i>Panelists:</i> Alex Hukowich, Board Member, Central East LHIN Scott McLeod, Senior Director Planning, Integration & Community Engagement, Mississauga Halton LHIN Allan Northan, MOH, Algoma Public Health Larry O'Connor, Member, Durham Regional Council Gary Switzer, CEO, Erie-St. Clair LHIN Megan Ward, AMOH, Peel Health</p> <hr/> <p>12:00 pm Lunch</p> <hr/> <p>12:45 pm Candidates' Speeches & Annual Business Meeting</p> <hr/> <p>1:45 - 5:00 pm Concurrent Section General Meetings for BOH, COMOH and Board Affiliate Members (Health Break at 3:15 pm)</p> <hr/> <p>6:00 - 6:30 pm Walk over to nearby off-site Reception and Dinner at Art Gallery of Windsor, 401 Riverside Dr. W.</p> <hr/> <p>6:30 pm President's Reception at the Art Gallery of Windsor (off-site, within walking distance of hotel, 401 Riverside Dr. W.)</p> <hr/> <p>7:30 - 9:30 pm Dinner & Annual Awards Presentation at the Art Gallery of Windsor (off-site, within walking distance of hotel, 401 Riverside Dr. W.)</p>	<p>7:30 am Registration and Breakfast (BOH Section Executive Meeting)</p> <hr/> <p>8:00 am Plenary - Public Health Information and Information Technology Speaker - Cindy Myers, Manager of Portal Operations & Stakeholder Engagement, MOHLTC</p> <hr/> <p>8:30 am Plenary: Media Relations Presentation and hands-on session on working with your local media Speaker - Veronique Mandal, Hargreaves Mandal Inc.</p> <hr/> <p>9:30 am Keynote Address by Ron Sapsford, Deputy Minister of Health & Long-Term Care</p> <hr/> <p>10:00 am Health Break</p> <hr/> <p>10:20 am Plenary: Government Relations Seminar on building and implementing effective government relations Speaker - Leonard Domino & Associates</p> <hr/> <p>12:00 pm Lunch</p> <hr/> <p>1:00 pm Resolutions Session</p> <hr/> <p>2:00 pm (approx.) Closing Remarks & End of Conference</p> <hr/> <p>2:15 pm aPHa 2007-08 Board of Directors Meeting * * for new and returning members to the 2007-08 aPHa Board of Directors</p>
<p>Conference Sponsors:</p> <p>Platinum</p>  <p>Mosey & Mosey</p> <p>Silver</p> 		<p>Conference co-hosted by</p>  <p>WINDSOR • ESSEX • LEAMINGTON www.wehealthunit.org</p>

Information for Delegates

alPHa and the Windsor Essex County Health Unit welcome you to Public Health Connects, the 2007 alPHa Annual Conference. We hope you and your guest will enjoy your time in Windsor, Canada's southernmost city. Below are some things to keep in mind during your stay:

Sunday, June 10

- Dinner will **not** be provided. Please check the Registration Desk or your delegates' folder for recommendations on nearby restaurants.
- Join your fellow delegates at the Welcoming Reception in the Ontario Room at the Hilton Windsor hotel. *Reception at 7:30 pm; cash bar.*

Monday, June 11

- Two Section general meetings are scheduled concurrently from 1:45 to 4:30 pm following the Annual Business Meeting. To achieve quorum at these meetings, we request that all board of health members and members who sit on a Health and Social Services Committee attend the Board of Health Section meeting and all MOHs/AMOHs attend the COMOH session. Agendas for these meetings will be provided in your conference folder to be picked up at the Registration Desk when registering.
- This year's President's Reception and Annual Awards Banquet will be held off site at the nearby Art Gallery of Windsor (401 Riverside Drive West), just a short walk east from the Hilton Windsor hotel. *Reception at 6:30 pm; dinner at 7:30 pm, semi-formal dress. Reception sponsored by Mosey & Mosey Benefit Plan Consultants.*

Congratulations to the following 2007 DSA recipients:

Dr. Sheela Basrur, Past Chief Medical Officer of Health
Gil Hebert, Member, Porcupine Board of Health
Dale Jackson, Director of Administration, Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit
Jim Paton, Retired, Director, Health Protection, Grey Bruce Health Unit
Dr. Pete Sarsfield, Medical Officer of Health, Northwestern Health Unit

- For spouses/guests taking part in the Explore Windsor & Essex County Guest Tour on Monday, June 11, please meet in the hotel lobby at **9:00 AM** before boarding the coach.

Tuesday, June 12

- For the Resolutions Session after lunch, please bring your copy of the June 2007 Resolutions for Consideration with you to help save paper and costs. alPHa will have a limited supply only at the conference.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Inclusions

Full (i.e. Sunday, Monday and Tuesday) - includes all sessions, meals (incl. Awards Dinner) and breaks

Monday only - includes all sessions, meals and breaks on Monday except evening President's Reception and Awards Dinner (\$70+GST extra per person)

Tuesday only - includes all sessions, meals and breaks

Guests - includes Guest Program activities/tour on Monday, social events on Sunday and Monday evenings and meals except Tuesday lunch

Conference Location

The Hilton Windsor
277 Riverside Drive West
Windsor ON N9A 5K4
Toll-free Phone: 1-877-973-7829
Local Tel: (519) 973-5555 (in-house reservations)
<http://www.windsor.hilton.com>

This year's conference site is beautifully located on the waterfront in the heart of downtown Windsor, close to many restaurants and commercial businesses. All guestrooms feature a river view and overlook gardens, sculptures and an extensive fitness trail. The hotel is a 20-minute drive to the local airport and is close to the VIA rail station and major highways. For further information about the hotel, please visit the hotel's web site.

Directions

From Toronto Area - Take Highway 401 southwest, exit at 3B north (Detroit Tunnel) to Downtown Windsor, turn left onto Riverside Drive; the hotel is located on left hand side at 277 Riverside Dr. W.

Registration Deadlines

May 25, 2007 for Guest Program registration
June 1, 2007 for Conference registration

Accommodations

Guestrooms at the Hilton Windsor are available for alPHa Conference registrants at the rate of \$129.00 +taxes per room (single or double) per night if booked **before May 2, 2007**. Call the hotel at 1-877-973-7829 or (519) 973-5555 and quote the group name "alPHa." Reservations made after May 2, 2007 will be subject to availability and may not be eligible for the conference rate.

Inform the hotel of any special requests (e.g., non-smoking room). To guarantee late arrival (i.e. after 6:00 PM local time), please provide the Reservations Dept. with a credit card number. If you wish to cancel the reservation, please do so by 6:00 PM local time on the day of arrival to avoid cancellation penalties.

Check-in: 3:00 PM Check-out: 12:00 PM
If arriving earlier than the hotel's standard check-in time, please contact the hotel directly.

Parking: \$11.00 self-parking
\$21.00 valet

Cancellation Policy

Notify alPHa on or before **May 11, 2007** for full refund of registration fees. Cancellations after this date but before May 22, 2007 will be subject to a 20% processing fee. No refund for cancellations after May 22, 2007 or for no shows. Substitutions welcomed but please notify our office.

Payment

Please mail your completed registration form (including cheque) to:
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
425 University Avenue, Suite 502
Toronto ON M6G 4B6

Contact

Karen Reece
Administrative Assistant, alPHa
tel: (416) 595-0006 ext. 24
fax: (416) 595-0030
[e-mail: karen@alphaweb.org](mailto:karen@alphaweb.org)



Public Health Connects - 2007 alPHa Annual Conference
June 10 to 12, Hilton Windsor

REGISTRATION FORM

Delegate Information

Name: _____

Title: _____

Health Unit: _____

Contact Person: _____ Tel: _____

E-mail _____

Special food and/or other requirements: _____

Please indicate (with ✓): BOH Member A/MOH Affiliate (_____) Other

Please indicate if bringing guest*: Yes, name: _____

(* if participating in Guest Program, registration deadline is May 11, 2007)

Registration Fees

	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Full Registration		
1st & 2nd delegate from same health unit	\$400	\$ _____
3rd & 4th delegate from same health unit	\$300	\$ _____
5th and subsequent delegate from same health unit	\$200	\$ _____
Daily Registration		
Monday only	\$200	\$ _____
Tuesday only	\$200	\$ _____
Special Events		
Monday Awards Dinner & President's Reception only	\$70	\$ _____
Guest Program (incl. Awards Dinner)	\$180	\$ _____
	<u>6% GST (R#127380822RT)</u>	\$ _____
	Total:	\$ _____

Please send form and make cheques payable to:
 Association of Local Public Health Agencies
 425 University Avenue, Suite 502 Toronto, ON M5G 1T6
 Fax: (416) 595-0030

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DEADLINE: June 1, 2007

For questions, please contact Karen Reece, Administrative Assistant:
 E-mail: karen@alphaweb.org Tel: (416) 595-0006 ext. 24

INFORMATION FOR GUESTS OF CONFERENCE DELEGATES

Explore Windsor and Essex County: Guest Tour

Monday, June 11, 2007
approx. 9:00 am to 4:30 pm

Guests will board our coach at the hotel for an all-day tour exploring the highlights of Windsor and Essex County. Tour includes Colasanti's Tropical Gardens, Walker's Fine Candies, Walkerville Area and a visit to Pelee Island Winery, producer of award-winning wines and vintages. **See the next page for program details.**

Price includes lunch at Colasanti's Tropical Gardens.

Meet in the hotel lobby at 9:00 am for transport pick-up. Participants will be returned to the hotel by 4:30 pm.

Guest Program Participants are also invited to:

Please note the following are included in the full registration fee and guest program fee only.

- Sunday, June 10** **Welcoming Reception, 7:30 - 9:30 pm**
Light refreshments will be provided and drinks may be purchased in this mix and mingle. On-site at the Hilton Windsor hotel.
- Monday, June 11** **President's Reception, 6:30 - 7:30 pm**
Join us for a relaxing start to the evening at the Art Gallery of Windsor (401 Riverside Drive West), which overlooks the magnificent Detroit skyline. Off-site, only a short walk from the Hilton Windsor hotel.
- Awards Banquet, 7:30 - 9:30 pm**
Also held at the Art Gallery of Windsor, the Awards Banquet will feature presentations of alPHa's annual Distinguished Service Awards to outstanding contributors to public health. Off-site, only a short walk from the hotel.

Cost to participate in the Guest Program is \$180+GST per person. To register, please indicate participation by completing the appropriate sections in the Conference Registration Form, which is available at http://www.alphaweb.org/files/conf_package_2_flyer_prgm_reg.pdf
The deadline to register for the Guest Program has been extended to **Friday, May 25, 2007.**



Explore Windsor and Essex County: Guest Tour - PROGRAM DETAILS
For Guests of 2007 alPHa Conference Delegates

MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2007

- 9:15 a.m. BOARD BUS at Hilton Windsor. Travel east down Riverside Drive to see the **Detroit River skyline, Casino Windsor, the Riverwalk and Hiram Walker's Canadian Club Brand Centre.**
- 9:30 a.m. Listen to brief commentary of **St. Mary's Church, Willistead Manor** and **Paul Martin Senior's** former home. Learn about the rum running days.
- 10:15 a.m. TOUR **Walker's Fine Candies.**
- 11:00 a.m. DEPART Walker's and travel to town of Ruthven.
- 12:00 Noon ARRIVE at **Colasanti's Tropical Gardens.**
- 1:00 p.m. Enjoy 20 minute Guided Tour of Colasanti's followed by shopping.
- 1:45 p.m. Depart Colasanti's.
- 2:00 pm. TOUR of **Pelee Island Winery.**
- 3:00 p.m. Depart winery for Windsor.
- 4:00 p.m. ARRIVE back in Windsor.

TOUR GUIDE: TBA

AGENDA
2007 aPHa ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
Monday, June 11, 2007
1:00 - 1:45 p.m.
Ontario/Erie Ballroom, 2nd Floor
Hilton Windsor, 277 Riverside Dr. W., Windsor

CHAIR: Dr. Liana Nolan, President

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- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. CALL TO ORDER | Nolan |
| 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA | Nolan |
| 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2006 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
<i>Held on June 16, 2006 in Toronto (attached)</i> | Nolan |
| 4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT | Nolan |
| 5. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | Stewart |
| 6. REPORT OF THE TREASURER
<i>Approval of the 2006-2007 Audited Financial Statement</i> | Harding |
| 7. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2007-2008 | Nolan |
| 8. REPORT ON 2006 ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS (attached) | Stewart |
| 9. BOARD OF HEALTH SECTION REPORT (to be circulated at meeting) | Blackmore |
| 10. COUNCIL OF ONTARIO MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH REPORT
(to be circulated at meeting) | Pollett |
| 11. AFFILIATES' REPORT (to be circulated at meeting) | Decou |
| 12. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT (attached) | Stewart |
| 13. 2007 aPHa STRATEGIC PLAN (attached) | Stewart |
| 14. NEW BUSINESS | |
| 15. ADJOURNMENT | |

**2006 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING OF
THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES
COURTYARD MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN TORONTO
COURTYARD A&B
CHAIR: LIANA NOLAN - PRESIDENT**

1.0 Call to Order / Approval of Agenda

The 2006 Annual Business Meeting was called to order by President Dr. Liana Nolan at 8:43 a.m. The agenda was approved on a MOTION by M. Harding SECONDED by L. O'Connor.

2.0 Approval of Proceedings of the 2005 Annual Business Meeting (previously circulated)

The proceedings of the November 22 alPHa Annual Business Meeting for 2005 were APPROVED as circulated on a MOTION by C. Viddal, SECONDED by M. Leduc.

3.0 Acknowledgement of the Continuation of the 2005-2007 alPHa Board of Directors

This item was to confirm the continuation of the current alPHa Board of Directors' extended term as proposed and approved in 2004 to equalize the extended term of the 2004-2005 Board resulting from a one-time rescheduling the usual June annual meeting to November of 2005. Continuation was CONFIRMED on a MOTION by V. Sterling, SECONDED by C. Whiting. Members were asked to stand as their continuation was acknowledged.

4.0 Report of the President

The Report of the President was distributed to delegates at the beginning of the meeting and summarized. Key topics covered included the alPHa's role in the local public health Capacity Review and the implementation of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion. Mention was made of the creation of the new Ministry of Health Promotion and alPHa staff was acknowledged for their hard work. The report was RECEIVED for the record on a MOTION by L. O'Connor, SECONDED by B. Timms.

5.0 Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director Linda Stewart referred to her written report that was distributed to delegates prior to the meeting, noting the absence of the usual annual report due to the unavailability of the final auditor's statement until the previous day. Components of the report were included in the conference binder. Key topics covered included a reiteration of alPHa's continuing role in the Capacity Review (noting that alPHa's input was particularly well received and reflected) the joint alPHa - OPHA conference, Smoke Free Ontario and Pandemic Influenza planning. The report was RECEIVED for the record on a MOTION by V. Sterling, SECONDED by C. Whiting.

6.0 Report of the Treasurer

alPHa Treasurer G. Hebert referred to a copy of the audited financial statements for 2006. His MOTION to receive the report was followed by a question of clarification by J.C. Caron about item 6 on page 2 (alPHa's Lease amount). It was explained that the expiry date is in October, resulting in an amount reflecting only six months. The report was Received after J.C. Caron SECONDED the motion.

7.0 Appointment of the Auditor for 2006-2007

L. Nolan proposed that the financial audit of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies be performed again by BDO Dunwoody LLP.

The proposal was accepted on a MOTION by Carol Lawrence SECONDED by G. Hebert.

8.0 Report of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

COMOH Chair G. Pollett delivered a verbal report for the record, indicating that a successful COMOH meeting on June 15th 2006 generated discussion and action items on implementation of the Capacity Review recommendations, the 2006 budget limitations and responding to recent changes to food safety legislation. He referred to a number of COMOH advocacy letters, including endorsement of the Agency Implementation Task Force recommendations, concerns about the 2006 budget and tamiflu stockpiling. He also indicated that COMOH continues to discuss public health system transformation issues with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Executive Lead, Public Health Transformation, as well as with the Association of Municipalities' Public Health Committee. He welcomed Dr. Nancy Cameron (TBDHU) back to the Council

9.0 Report of the Board of Health Section

Board of Health Section Chair V. Blackmore referred to, summarized and MOVED acceptance of the written Submission distributed to delegates prior to the meeting. It touched on the key areas of the Board of Health response to the Capacity Review recommendations, 2006 budget announcements and public health issues meetings with MPPs, as well as the new alPHa Board of Health member electronic mailing list. He also referred to the welcome recommendation of the CRC that educational programs be developed for board of health members, a reflection of the BOH Section's own desire for one. Receipt of the Report was SECONDED by G. Hebert and carried.

10.0 Report of the Advocacy Committee

Advocacy Committee Chair Linda Stewart gave a brief verbal report on Advocacy Committee activities, including the successful closure of a number of resolutions, continuing work on those that remain open and the establishment of a priority ranking system for each to assist in management of advocacy activities. She specifically mentioned an inquiry made of the Prime Minister by the committee about whether he intended to appoint a new Minister of State - Public Health, and reported that those duties have in fact reverted to the Minister of Health. The report was received on a MOTION by V. Sterling SECONDED by C. Whiting.

11.0 Resolutions Session

Five Resolutions were discussed and voted on by delegates to the 2006 Annual General Meeting. Three were carried and two were referred for further study and possible reintroduction at the next alPHa AGM. The resulting Disposition of Resolutions summary document will be distributed widely.

Resolution	Sponsor(s)	Action From Conference
A06 - 1, Highway Traffic Act	Durham Regional Council	Carried (as amended)
<p>Discussion:</p> <p>L. O'Connor summarized and MOVED the Resolution, SECONDED by R. Manuel V. Blackmore proposed a wording change that would ensure that amendments to the HTA would address such things as riding in the box of a pickup truck.</p> <p>FRIENDLY AMENDMENT, MOVED by V. Blackmore: Change "who can ride in a motor vehicle" to "transported by a motor vehicle" in the first operative clause. SECONDED by C. Whiting.</p> <p>Resolution CARRIED as amended.</p>		
A06 - 2, All Terrain Vehicle Safety	Durham Regional Council	Carried
<p>Discussion:</p> <p>L. O'Connor summarized and MOVED the Resolution, SECONDED by K. Gorman.</p> <p>Resolution CARRIED without further discussion.</p>		
A06 - 3, Health Based Regulation of the Management and Use of Artificial Tanning Equipment	aPHa Board of Directors	Carried (as amended)
<p>Discussion:</p> <p>V. Sterling summarized and MOVED the resolution, SECONDED by R. Manuel. She reported that the WHO has published a report on the subject, pointing out that manufacturers often claim that these devices have health benefits without the obligation of reporting the known health risks.</p> <p>FRIENDLY AMENDMENT, MOVED by C. Whiting, SECONDED by L. O'Connor to add "subject to the advice of a regulated health professional" following the "ban on the use of artificial tanning for those under 18" item in the operative clause</p> <p>Resolution CARRIED as amended</p>		
A06 - 4, 100% Provincial Funding Of Mandatory Health Programs and Services	Board of Health for the North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit	Referred to Advocacy Committee for further discussion and reintroduction at 2007 aPHa AGM

Discussion:

G. MacDougall summarized and MOVED the Resolution, SECONDED by C. Whiting.

She indicated that the rationale is based on relief of municipal taxpayers, ongoing conflicts between boards of health and municipalities, subsidies of insufficient grants for unorganized territories and the relatively small tax revenue base for Northern and rural municipalities.

Further discussion included questions about the province's record of adequately funding other areas at 100% and the inability of alPHa's members to reach consensus on the ideal model for public health funding.

A MOTION was made by B. Smirle, SECONDED by J. Virdiramo to refer this resolution to the Advocacy Committee for further discussion prior to reintroduction at the 2007 alPHa Annual General Meeting.

Referral of Resolution CARRIED

A06 - 5, Boarding or Lodging Homes (Late Resolution)

Durham Regional Council

Referred to Advocacy Committee for further discussion and reintroduction at 2007 alPHa AGM

Discussion:

Resolutions Session Chair L. Nolan called for and received a show of hands to approve hearing of resolution.

L. O'Connor MOVED and summarized the resolution, SECONDED by K. Gorman. He described this as an ongoing public health issue that has important implications for the residents of such facilities. Examples were given of a home where staff was not being paid and food was coming from the food bank. The only regulatory recourse was fire and safety and the kitchen itself. Government has never followed up on a 1992 Commission of Inquiry report calling for more oversight.

FRIENDLY AMENDMENTS were MOVED by F. Scott, SECONDED by V. Sterling to include non-AMO member the City of Toronto in the second operative clause and to include a reference to the Spring 2006 Budget Review in the First.

A MOTION was made by J. Virdiramo, SECONDED by B. Smirle to refer this resolution to the Advocacy Committee for further study prior to reintroduction at the 2007 alPHa Annual General Meeting.

Referral of Resolution CARRIED

REPORT ON 2006 RESOLUTIONS & ACTION TAKEN

A total of five resolutions were considered for adoption by the alPHa membership at the June 2006 annual conference. Three of these were endorsed and two were deferred for further review. The following is an update on the status of the June 2006 resolutions.

A06 – 1, Highway Traffic Act

(Action from 2006 Conference: Carried as amended)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Minister of Transportation be urged to amend the Highway Traffic Act such that the number of passengers transported by a motor vehicle is restricted to equal the number of available seatbelts with the exception of those vehicles that are exempted according to the Highway Traffic Act; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, and Health Promotion; Chief Medical Officer of Health be so advised.

As per the operative clause, alPHa sent a letter to the Minister of Transportation calling on the Province to restrict the number of passengers transported by a motor vehicle to the number of available seatbelts. In mid-October, after four deaths resulted from an overcrowded minivan crash, the Minister of Transportation introduced a "one person-one seatbelt" amendment to the Highway Traffic Act (Bill 148). The bill passed into law on November 2. Following the recommendation of the Advocacy Committee, the alPHa Board of Directors approved closure on this resolution in February 2007.

A06 - 2, All Terrain Vehicle Safety

(Action from 2006 Conference: Carried)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario be urged to strike a multi-stakeholder ATV Task Group to develop a comprehensive, evidence-based approach, including amendments to the Off-Road Vehicles Act, to promote ATV safety and prevent ATV injuries, particularly in children; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, Health Promotion and Transportation and Chief Medical Officer of Health be so advised.

In September 2006 alPHa wrote the Minister of Transportation to urge the Province to strike an All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) task force to develop a safety and injury prevention approach to ATV use. The Province Project and Change Management Branch replied in a November 2006 letter to alPHa that there is presently a government ATV group that is reviewing legislation and policy related to the Off Vehicles Act.

continued

A06 – 3, Health Based Regulation of the Management and Use of Artificial Tanning Equipment

(Action from 2006 Conference: Carried as amended)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of Ontario pass and promote legislation governing the use of artificial tanning equipment based on the above-named WHO Report's Recommendations for the Management of Sunbed Operations, that includes

- regulation of the safety claims permitted by tanning salon owners and operators*
- training requirements for operators of artificial tanning equipment*
- a ban on the use of artificial tanning for those under 18, subject to the advice of a regulated health professional*
- the formulation of enforceable safe operating standards for the tanning industry, including, maximum exposure times and warnings to consumers related to the use of UV-emitting tanning equipment*

In September 2006, alPHa sent a letter to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to pass and promote legislation on the use and management of artificial tanning equipment. The issue has also been taken up by the Provincial Cancer Prevention and Screening Council in its Report on Cancer 2020, which recommends that the use of artificial tanning equipment be restricted to those over 18 years of age. alPHa has approached Cancer Care Ontario about working together to achieve its Cancer 2020's goals and objectives. In April 2007, alPHa was asked for more information on the issue by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care's Director of Environmental Health.

A06 – 4, 100% Provincial Funding of Mandatory Health Programs and Services

(Action from 2006 Conference: Referred to Advocacy Committee for further discussion and reintroduction at 2007 alPHa AGM)

The Advocacy Committee reviewed this resolution at its September 2006 meeting and directed alPHa staff to contact the resolution's sponsor, North Bay Parry Sound Health Unit, with suggestions to either broaden the scope of the resolution to include all health units or advocate the issue with other northern health units. The NBPSHU elected to do the former and has submitted a revised resolution for consideration at the Resolutions Session at the 2007 annual conference in Windsor. This resolution has been given the new title *A07-1, Request for 100% Provincial Funding for Mandatory Health Programs and Services*. At its April 27, 2007 meeting, the alPHa Board of Directors reviewed the retitled resolution and recommended that it go forward to the June 2007 conference for discussion by the membership. The alPHa Executive Committee also reviewed this resolution and made the same recommendation.

A06 – 5, Boarding or Lodging Homes (Late Resolution)

(Action from 2006 Conference: Referred to Advocacy Committee for further discussion and reintroduction at 2007 alPHa AGM)

At its September 2006 meeting, the Advocacy Committee directed alPHa staff to forward the resolution to the alPHa Board of Directors for approval with additional background information to be provided by the resolution's sponsor, i.e. Durham Region Health Department. On September 29, 2006, the alPHa Board endorsed this resolution with the amendment to strike clause *(e) the Spring 2006 budget review* in the operative clause. In February 2007, alPHa sent a letter to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care regarding the issue. The Minister Responsible for Seniors was copied on the letter. This resolution replaces a previously endorsed resolution from the 2000 annual conference, i.e. A00-4, Boarding or Lodging Homes, as alPHa's official position on the issue.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
Annual Report 2006-2007
June 11, 2007

Members of the 2006-2007 alPHa Advocacy Committee and their representation were as follows:

- **Lila Cyr** (Algoma), Board of Health Section
- **Mary Lou Decou** (Niagara), Association of Public Health Epidemiologists of Ontario
- **Scott Elder** (Hastings-Prince Edward), Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators
- **Ken Gorman** (Durham), Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario
- **Colleen Jordan** (Durham), Board of Health Section
- **Susan Kniahnicki** (Algoma), ANDSOOHA – Public Health Nursing Management
- **Carolyn Kuntz** (Elgin-St. Thomas), Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health
- **Dr. Rosana Pellizzari** (Perth), Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health
- **Dr. Joyce Sinton** (Brant), Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry
- **Linda Stewart** (alPHa), Chair
- **Dr. Monir Taha** (Halton), Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health

The Committee is supported by alPHa staff members Gordon Fleming, Manager of Public Health Issues, and Susan Lee, Manager, Administrative and Association Services.

In 2006-2007, alPHa's Advocacy Committee met four times by teleconference to conduct its regular review of the actions taken on resolutions that were endorsed at the June 2006 annual conference and prior conferences. Normally, the Committee meets five times a year. However, two scheduled teleconferences were cancelled, partly to allow members to maximize their time to review and respond to the draft Ontario Public Health Standards.

As part of its mandate, the Committee prioritized the June 2006 resolutions, monitored and provided input on the actions taken to date on them, recommended a number of resolutions for closure to the alPHa Board and reviewed the resolutions that were submitted for consideration at the June 2007 annual conference.

The Committee also examined its role and purpose within the Association. Discussions on this issue led to two major outcomes. The first included the identification of the need for improved interaction and communication flow between the Advocacy Committee and the alPHa Board. At the November alPHa board meeting, this issue was raised by the Committee and supported fully by the Board. The second outcome occurred at the February 2007 strategic planning for the association where the Committee's role was further examined. The alPHa Board agreed with the Committee's goal to broaden its advocacy scope beyond letter writing strategies in the near future. The details of that expanded role will be mapped out in the finalized alPHa Strategic Plan.

continued

Also as result of the review of the Committee's purpose and role, members decided that the Committee would, in the future, focus on those issues/resolutions with recent actions and suggest next steps for these where applicable. Since the list of resolutions that alPHa and the Committee has been monitoring has been growing steadily each year, it was recognized a review of older resolutions would be needed. In mid-February, Advocacy Committee members S. Elder and M. Taha met with alPHa staff to review resolutions going back to the year 2000 that were either out of date or unresolved as well as those that were previously ranked low in priority and, therefore, had not been reviewed recently by the Advocacy Committee. After the meeting, alPHa staff followed up on a number of these resolutions as per the reviewers' suggestions and were directed to develop a review policy for resolutions, including those for which a period of time has passed during which little or no action has been taken.

I would like to thank the members of the Committee for volunteering their energy and expertise on all the policies and issues that have been presented for strategic discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Stewart, Chair

A06-1 – Highway Traffic Act.

Operative Clause:

- *that the Minister of Transportation be urged to amend the Highway Traffic Act such that the number of passengers transported by a motor vehicle is restricted to equal the number of available seatbelts with the exception of those vehicles that are exempted according to the Highway Traffic Act;*
- *and the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Children and Youth Services, Health and Long-Term Care, and Health Promotion; Chief Medical Officer of Health be so advised.*

Reason for closure: The operative clause was satisfied with the introduction of legislation on October 16 2006. In mid-October, after four deaths resulted from an overcrowded minivan crash, the Minister of Transportation introduced a "one person-one seatbelt" amendment to the Highway Traffic Act (Bill 148). The bill passed into law on November 2.

A05-19 Tax Relief for Families with Children Living in Poverty

Operative Clause:

- *Any tax changes contemplated by the Government of Canada must include, as a first priority, a significant, non-refundable tax credit to be paid poor families with children.*

Reason for closure: This was an emergency Resolution originally passed immediately prior to the federal election of 2005, and was intended to be communicated to the leaders of each of the campaigning parties to make such tax relief a priority. Notwithstanding the limited intention of the Resolution, the March 19 2007 federal budget included a \$2000 annual tax credit for each child under 18, which will apply to all families, and result in the further exemption of approximately 180 000 low-income families from the tax roll.

A05-16 – Board of Health Budgets for 2006

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) petition the federal and provincial governments to ensure that municipalities have additional means of revenue generation to ensure the availability of resources adequate to meet local public health needs.*

Reason for closure: Budget process for 2006 is completed. alPHa has an existing, more general Resolution calling for sufficient financial commitments from funders to allow 100% compliance with Mandatory Programs (A02-2, Adequate Funding for Public Health Programs and Services).

A05-12 Type 1 Diabetes in Children

Operative Clause:

- *aIPHa urges the Governments of Canada and Ontario to act immediately and in concert to develop and implement, as soon as possible, a long-term action plan that significantly increases resources available for the epidemiology, education, care and treatment related to type 1 diabetes in children*

Reason for closure: The Provincial Government has committed \$9.65M to cover the full cost of insulin pumps and ongoing related supplies to benefit about 1,000 children aged 18 and under, retroactive to April 1, 2006. This is part of the \$53 million diabetes strategy that focuses on diabetes education, early intervention and effective prevention of complications. It includes *The Pediatric Diabetes Initiative (PDI)* for children with type 1 diabetes to make appropriate education, treatment and follow-up resources available to children with diabetes and their parents at 34 regional programs across Ontario. The Resolution Sponsor has been contacted and agrees that this announcement is in proper alignment with the operative clause of the Resolution.

A05-8 – Healthy Weights.

Operative Clause:

- *that aIPHa urges the Premier of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, the Minister of Health Promotion and the Chief Medical Officer of Health to act immediately to develop specific, objectives, goals and targets based on the recommendations of HealthyWeights, Healthy Lives and to implement a healthy weights action plan to meet them, ideally as an integral component of a pan-Canadian healthy living strategy, to advance the recommendations of "Healthy Weights, Healthy Lives";*
- *and the MOHLTC, PHD provide funding to the local PHU to address the health problem to the same level as it provides to tobacco control;*
- *and the Premier of Ontario, Ministers of Health and Long-Term Care, Education and Tourism and Recreation and Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.*

Reason for closure: The Ministry of Health Promotion's Healthy Eating, Active Living Action Plan satisfies the operative clause.

A05-1 Improving Access to Contraception in Ontario

Operative Clause:

- *that the aIPHa Board of Directors advocate to the National Association of Pharmacy Regulatory Authorities (NAPRA) and to the Ontario College of Pharmacists for a change in status of Plan B (tm) to an off-schedule medication available for sale at any retail outlet;*
- *and that the aIPHa Board write to the Canadian Pharmacist Association requesting that the current screening interventions for Plan B (tm) be revised to decrease unreasonable barriers to access the medication and that an information sheet for distribution with purchase of the product be developed and used in the interim.*

Reason for closure: both operative clauses have been satisfied. Following the requested advocacy, NAPRA has made clear its disagreement with aIPHa's position, and the CPA screening interventions in question were changed in December 2005 following a complaint by Ontario's Privacy Commissioner.

A04-8 – Pre-School Speech, Language and Audiology Funding

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) request an increase in the annual funding for the preschool speech and language, audiology and infant hearing programs by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care so as to maintain the existing levels of service provided by health units, and to allow enhanced service to residents of First Nation communities.*

Reason for closure: Resolution Sponsor agreed that the \$4.7 million in the Preschool Speech and Language program and \$1.2 million Infant Hearing program that was announced by MCYS that year did satisfy the first part of the operative clause (“funding...to maintain existing levels of service provided by health units”) and acknowledged that the second part (enhancing services to First Nation communities) would require more than just increased/enhanced funding (e.g. the development an innovative service delivery model that is cost effective and meets the needs of the child, family and community). This second aspect of the operative clause is addressed in the broader demands of alPHA Resolution A02-10 (Aboriginal Public Health in Ontario), which calls for quality and equitable delivery of all aspects of the HPPA to all First Nations citizens.

A04-4, Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines

Operative Clause:

- *that alPHA urges the Government of Ontario, as an interim step, to finalize the revised chronic disease prevention, early detection of cancer, injury prevention and substance abuse prevention, reproductive health, child health and safe water program standards.*

Reason for closure: The current *Review and Renewal of the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines* process supersedes the recommendations made by the technical review committees on chronic disease prevention, early detection of cancer, injury prevention and substance abuse prevention, reproductive health and child health program standards in 2002.

A04-2, Ontario Expert Panel on SARS and Infectious Diseases

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) urges the Government of Ontario to strike an Expert Advisory Group, including representation from alPHA and its Council of Medical Officers of Health, to oversee and guide the implementation of these recommendations;*
- *and that alPHA urges the Government of Ontario to direct the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to report to the legislature at least annually on the progress of the implementation.*

Reason for closure: This resolution calls on the Government of Ontario to strike an Expert Advisory Group, including representation from alPHA and its Council of Medical Officers of Health, to oversee and guide the implementation of these recommendations. It was passed two weeks prior to the release of Operation Health Protection, which in turn enabled the Capacity Review Committee, the Agency Implementation Task Force, and the Mandatory Program Review and Renewal process. These satisfy the operative clause of this resolution.

A02-7, Influenza Immunization and Reporting

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) request that the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care amend:*
 1. *Regulation 566 (Qualifications of Boards of Health Staff) under the Health Protection and Promotion Act to require that all employees of Boards of Health be required to be immunized annually against influenza unless contraindicated, and*
 2. *the Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines to require Boards of Health to report to the Minister of Health on the influenza immunization status of employees annually.*

Reason for closure: This resolution specifically calls for amendments to O. Reg 566 (Qualifications of Board of Health Staff) to require mandatory influenza vaccination for all BOH employees. The argument is supported by citing the Ambulance Act, which at the time made influenza vaccines mandatory for paramedics. They filed a Charter challenge, arguing that other HCWs were not similarly obligated. The challenge was withdrawn after the province repealed that section of the Act. alPHA's more recent resolution on the subject (A05-2) makes a stronger case for the mandatory immunization of *all* HCWs and service providers in HC facilities and community settings (e.g. health units), subject to an examination of their risk of transmitting the disease to others at high risk of complications from the disease.

A01-19 – Ontario Works Allowances and Adequate Nutrition

Operative Clause:

- *that the Government of Ontario is urged to review and ensure that the Basic Allowance portion of Ontario Works Financial Assistance allows for adequate nutrition;*
- *and that the Premier of Ontario, the Ministers of Community and Social Services and Health and Long-Term Care and the Chief Medical Officer of Health are so advised.*

Reason for closure: Policy climate has changed since 2001 and more recent Resolution #A05-18, (Adequate Nutrition for works and Ontario Disability Support Program Participants and Low Wage Earners) urges broader measures to ensure that Ontarians that rely on social assistance and/or minimum wages are able to meet basic shelter and nutrition needs.

A01-16 – Fetal Alcohol Effects Syndrome Prevention

Operative Clause:

- *that the Government of Canada is urged to require all containers of alcoholic beverages sold in Canada to carry the following visible and clearly printed label Warning: Drinking alcohol during pregnancy can cause birth defects.*
- *and that the Prime Minister of Canada, the Minister of Health Canada, and the Health Critics of the Opposition Parties, alPHA, AMO, CPHA, FCM, and OPHA are so advised.*

Reason for closure: The Standing Committee on Health recommended in 2005 that the House of Commons not proceed any further with Bill C-206 (requiring the requested warning labels on containers of alcoholic beverages). The decision was based on conclusions that established, targeted programs for FAS prevention were more effective, and that the significant cost of implementing labeling requirements would far outweigh their benefits and divert resources away from those programs. **NOTE:** Health Units may want to follow up on this issue as new information develops.

A01-14, Paper Fibre Biosolids Disposal

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) urges the Government of Ontario to amend the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) such that the spreading and storage of all biosolids, including paper fibre biosolids, requires a certificate of approval be issued by a Director.*

Reason for closure: Resolution A05-6 is a more recent and specific resolution that reflects recent developments, namely that the Report of the Experts Panel on Sound-Sorb urges that the "product formulation" exemption for PFB be removed so that it is subject to MOE Certificates of Approval prior to its deposition.

A01-11 Colorectal Cancer Screening

Operative Clause:

- *that alPHA urges the Government of Ontario to approve and fund Cancer Care Ontario's Colorectal Cancer Screening Pilot Project so that the project can be implemented and evaluated as soon as possible and by so doing, lay the groundwork for the establishment of a future organized Ontario colorectal cancer screening program.*

Reason for closure: The Ontario Government has announced investments of \$193.5 million over the next five years to implement and expand a program to increase access to colorectal cancer screening for Ontarians aged 50 years or older – this goes beyond what is requested in the operative clause.

A01-4 – Heart Health Funding

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) and the Ontario Public Health Association urges the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to provide sustainable funding of the provincial strategy for heart health;*
- *and that the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care support strategies to direct programming and policies to prevent cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in the population, including access to a provincial resource system to ensure public health professionals receive on-going training and support.*

Reason for closure: This resolution asked for extension of the provincial portion of the Ontario Heart Health programs specifically for the period beginning April 1, 2003. In November of 2002, the province committed \$17M over five years. Ontario Heart Health community partnerships are singled out as key players in the Ministry of Health Promotion's Healthy Eating, Active Living action plan. On October 23rd 2006, the federal government announced a national Heart Health strategy, with investments of \$3.2 million this fiscal year, which will increase to \$5.2 million annually for future years.

A01-2, Provincial Accountability Framework and Mandatory Program Compliance/Funding

Operative Clause:

- *that the Public Health Branch assure that the provincial Accountability Framework, as it applies to the roles and functions of boards of health, is fully discussed with boards of health and health unit senior management, such that the purposes, structure and impacts of Framework are fully understood by these groups;*
- *and that no reduction of provincial funding result from non-compliance with Mandatory Program requirements and standards.*

Reason for closure: the Resolution refers to a Provincial Accountability Framework, which was an initiative of the Progressive Conservative government of the time. The issue was concerned that the failure to comply with the MHPSG would be used as leverage to reduce provincial contributions, a scenario not borne out in the intervening years (the province has significantly increased its funding to boards of health). alPHA's resolution on adequate funding for full compliance with Mandatory Programs remains active (A02-2).

A00-4, Boarding or Lodging Houses

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) urges the Government of Ontario to ensure that boarding or lodging houses, including rest and retirement homes, are required to register with local boards of health and municipalities;*
- *and that alPHA urges the Government of Ontario to ensure that minimum standards for personal care are established for boarding or lodging houses, including rest and retirement homes, that provide such care for their residents.*

Reason for closure: alPHA Resolution A06-5, Boarding or Lodging Homes is a more recent Resolution whose operative clause is essentially the same.

A00-1 – Federal Funding for Public Health.

Operative Clause:

- *that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) calls on the Federal Government to establish a national program for Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, establish national standards and provide 50% funding to Provinces for all new and expanded programs and services meeting such standards;*
- *and that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) calls on the Province of Ontario to immediately invest 1% of the projected added treatment cost of \$9.5 B to provide an additional \$95 M for the funding of public health agencies as the provincial share of new funding for public health activities;*
- *and that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) and all Ontario Boards of Health contact the Federal and Provincial Governments to support the enhancement of preventive services.*

Reason for closure: Since this resolution was passed,

- The Federal Government has created the Public Health Agency of Canada (satisfies the “establish a national program for disease prevention and health promotion” clause)
- The Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Health agreed upon Health Goals for Canada in October 2005 (satisfies the “establish national standards” clause)
- Operation Health Protection investments, the creation of the Ministry of Health Promotion and the increase to the provincial share of public health funding more than satisfies the call for \$95M in new provincial money.
- The call on the federal government to provide 50% funding for the costs of new and expanded programs and services to meet these goals is unrealistic as worded – such funding would be part of the Canada Health Transfer, which does not itemize types of health – related spending.



Association of Local Public Health Agencies

2007 Strategic Plan

This document sets out a strategic plan for the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa). It presents the organization's existing governing statements, reviews the current environment in which public health operates, and sets out proposed strategic priorities for the next two years.

The Association

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) is a non-profit organization that provides leadership to boards of health and public health units in Ontario. Our members include board of health members of health units, medical and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers. alPHa advises and lends expertise to members on the governance, administration and management of health units. The Association also collaborates with governments and other health organizations, advocating for a strong, effective and efficient public health system in the province.

Mission Statement

alPHa, through a strong and unified voice, advocates for public health policies, programs and services on behalf of member health units in Ontario.

Long-Term Objectives

- To assist local public health units in providing efficient and effective services that meet the needs of the people of Ontario.
- To assist in establishing, through collaboration with other organizations, a unified and powerful voice for public health in Ontario which is consulted and respected.

Corporate Tag Line

"Providing leadership in public health management"

The Public Health Landscape in 2007

<p>Political Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Health spending</i> - total health costs approaching 50% of provincial budget • <i>Chronic Disease</i> – recognized by politicians as key cost driver • <i>Health Promotion</i> - stated commitment to health promotion and disease prevention • <i>Federal Government</i> - increasing profile in public health & environmental issues, e.g., air quality, global warming, vaccines, etc. • <i>Ontario election (Oct 10, 2007)</i> - may impact: Ministry Health Promotion and interministerial linkages; Capacity Review Committee recommendations; Local Health Integration Networks; the Ontario Public Health Standards; and the new Health Protection and Promotion Agency 	<p>Economic Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Overlap with other factors</i> - political decisions being driven by economic factors • <i>Funding priorities</i> - public health competing for funding against other higher profile priorities • <i>Overall economic status</i> - cautious optimism 	<p>Socio-Cultural Factors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Population shifts</i> - age distribution (e.g., baby boomers migrating, leaving cities) will impact public health delivery • <i>Multiculturalism</i> - in large urban areas impacts public health delivery • <i>Growing Poverty</i> - increasing numbers of poor people and a shrinking middle class • <i>Consumer patterns</i> - rising consumption of fast food and use of fossil fuel • <i>Aboriginal/First Nations</i> - many health units struggle to serve First Nations and other aboriginal communities • <i>Skill-based society</i> – shift to stronger need for technical expertise, including the trades
<p>Technological</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Health</i> - currently dependent on information technology • <i>Investment</i> – government is investing in technology infrastructure, e.g., Smart Systems for Health (Provincial), Canada Health Infoway (Federal) • <i>Health impacts of technology</i> - much is unknown about the health effects of rapidly-changing technologies that are being adopted at an ever increasing rate (e.g., cell phones, internet) • <i>Data</i> – government is currently focused on determining the usefulness of data collected in all departments 	<p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Growing Priority</i> – “the environment” is of concern to both government and the general public • <i>Climate change</i> – has become a key government priority • <i>Waste disposal challenges</i> -landfills, recycling • <i>Food and water safety</i> - perception and real risks influence policies • <i>Built environment</i> – recognition for the connection between land use planning and its impact on health is growing • <i>Transportation</i> – interest in considering alternatives, e.g., public transit to reduce dependence on cars and health impacts of air pollution 	<p>Legal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>New Laws</i> – e.g., Source Water Protection; Health System Improvements • <i>Public Health Mandate</i> - Mandatory Program Standards update • <i>LHINS</i> - what role will public health play in the Local Health Integration Networks? • <i>Emerging legislation</i> – e.g., climate change • <i>Privacy legislation</i> - balancing individual rights with public good; • <i>Litigation</i> - increasing (e.g., West Nile Virus, environmental contamination) • <i>Deregulation</i> - increasingly an issue (e.g., Food Premises Regulation, attacks on fluoridation and pasteurization)

Strategic Goals

1. Build the leadership capacity of senior leaders in public health
2. Improve member engagement with the Association
3. Strengthening strategic partnerships
4. Leverage new and existing relationships
5. Improve Association response time to emerging issues

Strategic Goal	Objective	Strategy	Timeline
1. Build the leadership capacity of senior leaders in public health	<p>Effective leadership through a period of change for the public health system</p> <p>Excellence in board and management performance</p> <p>Maximize credibility of public health leaders</p>	<p>Facilitate professional development in the areas of leadership, communication, governance, management, and specific issues (e.g., emergency preparedness)</p> <p>Pursue on-going funding for ALPHA to co-ordinate professional development for BOHS, MOHs and senior managers</p>	<p>2007-08</p> <p>2007-08</p>

Strategic Goal	Objective	Strategy	Timeline
2. Improve member engagement with the Association	<p>Expand 2-way communication with all members</p> <p>Strengthen the impact of association for all members</p> <p>Ensure alpha conferences/meetings include content for affiliates</p> <p>Increase the visibility of health units and their professional staff</p> <p>Be better positioned to support and to react quickly to advocacy efforts</p>	<p>Establish regular communication with affiliate presidents</p> <p>Create listserves for affiliate groups</p> <p>Establish Conference Planning Committee</p> <p>Develop opportunities for Association members</p> <p>Know key issues for each affiliate group</p>	<p>2007-08</p> <p>2007-08</p> <p>2007-08</p> <p>On-going</p> <p>2008-09</p>
3. Strengthening strategic partnerships	<p>Build a higher profile for public health and the Association</p> <p>Build momentum for public health renewal</p> <p>Co-ordinate with partners to clarify advocacy roles and identify available tools</p> <p>Engage in effective government relations and advocacy</p> <p>Effective use of scarce resources and reacting to issues quickly</p>	<p>Build a public health coalition of associations</p> <p>Expand Public Health Renewal Committee to include partners</p> <p>Develop strategic partnerships outside of public health e.g. LHINs</p>	<p>2008-09</p> <p>2007-08</p> <p>2008-09</p>

Strategic Goal	Objective	Strategy	Timeline
4. Leverage new and existing relationships	Build a higher profile for the Association	Develop an all-candidate election primer on public health and key public health issues	2007-08
	More effective use of the political capital of BOH members and MOHs	Build on and leverage relationships between BOHs and MPPs	2008-09
	Engage in effective government relations and advocacy	Build on and leverage the relationships between the alpha Board and provincial ministers/ opposition critics	2008-09
		Strengthen relationships with Province (i.e., Chief Medical Officer of Health, and staff of Public Health Division and Ministry of Health Promotion)	Ongoing
		Focus Advocacy Committee efforts and expand strategies beyond writing letters	2007-08

Strategic Goal	Objective	Strategy	Timeline
5. Improve response time to emerging issues	Timely responses to emerging issues manner	Empower the alPHa Executive Committee to respond to urgent issues quickly	2007-08
	Have position statements ready	Use forward-thinking strategies	2007-08
	Focus alPHa staff work on Association priorities	Develop an in-house policy analysis function	2008-09
		Improve alPHa's resolutions database	2008-09

INFORMATION ITEM

Record of Attendance - 2005-07 alPHa Board of Directors

(out of 9 meetings from November 2005 to April 2007)

Executive Committee		# of Meetings Attended
Liana Nolan	President	9
Vance Blackmore	Vice President & Chair, BOH Section	9
Larry O'Connor	Past President	9
Gil Hebert *	Treasurer	5
Maria Harding	Interim Treasurer	9
Graham Pollett	Chair, COMOHO	4
Mary Lou Decou	Affiliate Representative, APHEO	8
Directors at Large		
Robert Kyle	COMOHO	8
Matthew Hodge	COMOHO	6
Patricia Huston *	COMOHO	1
Mary Johnson **	BOH Section	2
Helen Mulligan	BOH Section	9
Allan Northan	COMOHO	9
Fran Scott	COMOHO	8
Valerie Sterling	BOH Section	7
Bruce Timms	BOH Section	8
Affiliate Representatives		
Ken Gorman	ASPHIO	8
Carolyn Kuntz	OSNPPH	6
Dale Jackson	AOPHBA	8
Joyce Sinton	OAPHD	9
Gayle Bursey *	HPO	2
Theresa Schumilas **	HPO	4
Carol Timmings	ANDSOOHA	6

* *resigned mid-term*

** *joined mid-term*

To All Members of Ontario Boards of Health

AGENDA

Board of Health Section General Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2007 • 1:45 – 5:00 PM
Ontario Room, Hilton Windsor
277 Riverside Drive West, Windsor

CHAIR: Vance Blackmore,
Vice-President and Board of Health Section Chair
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA)

- | | | |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1.0 | CALL TO ORDER | VANCE BLACKMORE |
| 1:00 | APPROVAL OF AGENDA | ALL |
| 2.0 | APPROVAL OF MINUTES
from February 2, 2007 Meeting <i>(attached)</i> | ALL |
| 3.0 | BUSINESS ARISING / STANDING ITEMS | |
| 1:50 | 3.1 Ministry Update
<i>Q&A with the Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health.</i> | GEORGE PASUT |
| 2:15 | 3.2 Association Update
<i>Report on recent association activities. (attached)</i> | LINDA STEWART |
| 2:20 | 3.3 Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA) Update
<i>Report on recent OCCHA activities.</i> | HELEN MULLIGAN |
| 2:25 | 3.4 Board of Health Section Executive Elections
<i>Four seats on BOH Section Executive are open for election at this conference. (attached)</i> | VANCE BLACKMORE |
| 4.0 | NEW BUSINESS | |
| 2:45 | 4.1 Wet Cleaning
<i>Update on this innovative, environmentally-friendly alternative to dry cleaning.</i> | GUEST SPEAKER |
| 3:15 | BREAK | |

3:30 **4.2 Water Fluoridation** GUEST SPEAKER
Overview of water fluoridation issues & information sharing

4.3 Learning From Each Other

4:15 **4.3.1 Grow Ops and Meth Labs** LINDA STEWART
Health Unit Survey results & information sharing.

5.0 NEXT MEETING

At 2007 aPHa Fall Workshop, December 6-7, Toronto, ON.

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

5:00

To end the day

6:30 aPHa PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION and ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

Join your colleagues and our special guests at the Art Gallery of Windsor (close by at 401 Riverside Drive West) for these favourite events. The 2007 Distinguished Service Award winners are:

- Mr. Gil Hebert, Porcupine Board of Health
- Dr. Pete Sarsfield, MOH, Northwestern Health Unit
- Dr. Sheela Basrur, Past-Chief MOH
- Mr. Jim Paton, Retired Director, Health Protection, Grey Bruce Health Unit
- Mr. Dale Jackson, Director of Administration, Hastings & Prince Edward Counties Health Unit

MINUTES
Board of Health Section General Meeting
Thursday, February 1, 2007 • 1:00 – 4:00 PM
 Alsace Room, Novotel Toronto Centre
 45 The Esplanade, Downtown Toronto

PRESENT:

Algoma	Lila Cyr	Oxford	Stephen Molnar
Brant	Helen Mulligan		
Durham Region	April Cullen Bonnie Littley Colleen Jordan Larry O'Connor	Peterborough	Keith Knott Madeline Pearson David Watton
Eastern Ontario	Gary Barton Mary Johnson Bob Kilger Marcel Leduc Guy Leger Jim McDonell	Porcupine	Bill Gvozdanovic Joseph Matko Maurice Tanguay
Grey Bruce	Wally Reif		
Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge	Peter Delanty Chris Herrington Marg Odawa	Simcoe Muskoka	Karen Burgess Dennis Roughley
Hastings & Prince Edward	Bev Campbell Ron Hamilton	Sudbury	Phyllis Kinoshameg
Leeds, Grenville	Jack Butt	Thunder Bay	Connie Bryson Maria Harding
Middlesex-London	Patricia Coderre Al Edmondson Tom McLaughlin Doreen McLinchey Mark Studenny	Timiskaming	Brian Hughes
Niagara Region	Barbara Greenwood Bruce Timms	Toronto	Valerie Sterling
North Bay Parry Sound	Mac Bain	Wellington-Dufferin Guelph	Dianne Lindsey Amanda Rayburn

Chair:

Vance Blackmore, Board of Health, Middlesex-London Health Unit

alPHa Staff:

Linda Stewart, Executive Director

Susan Lee, Manager, Administrative & Association Services

Guest Presenters:

George Pasut, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health & Long-Term Care

Marg Rappolt, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health Promotion

Adrienne Scott, Director - Strategic Policy Branch, Ministry of Environment

Ian Smith, Director - Drinking Water Program Management Branch, Ministry of Environment

Michael Perley, Executive Director, Ontario Coalition for Action on Tobacco

Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by the Chair. The agenda was approved on a motion by V. Sterling (Toronto) which was seconded by H. Mulligan (Brant) and carried.

2.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting held February 2, 2006 were approved on a motion by L. Cyr (Algoma) which was seconded by M. Leduc (Eastern Ontario) and carried.

NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Ministry Update

Following introductions, Dr. George Pasut, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH), provided an update on Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) activities. He passed on best wishes and thanks from Dr. Sheela Basrur, who stepped down from her CMOH responsibilities in December 2006 due to health reasons. He will be in his new role until June 12, 2007 and is presently sharing leadership with Ruth Hawkins, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM). Ms. Hawkins is overseeing the public health administrative portfolio.

Following are some major points of Dr. Pasut's update:

- recruitment for a permanent CMOH is underway
- in March, all boards of health will have an opportunity to review the proposed draft Standards (which will replace the current Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines)
- process for the Provincial-Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review, which will review shared funding programs and services, has just begun and is expected to make recommendations by 2008; it is unknown as to whether and how public health will be discussed (refer to http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/userfiles/HTML/nts_1_27601_1.html for more information)

Questions to Dr. Pasut included accreditation, proposed amalgamation (Capacity Review Committee Final Report), pandemic influenza planning and smoking in casinos.

Following the CMOH's presentation, Marg Rappolt, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP), was introduced and provided an overview of this relatively new (since June 2005) ministry. She also spoke to its core business (i.e. funding partner for transfer payment agencies), recent accomplishments (e.g. Smoke-Free Ontario and the reduction in youth smoking rates, Healthy Eating Active Living strategy), and ongoing commitment with public health partners. She indicated that the MHP centred around chronic disease prevention and physical activity. She concluded by welcoming input from boards of health as the health system continues to evolve.

Members expressed concern over the following to the Deputy Minister (DM):

- perceived dual standard in the Smoke-Free Ontario Act that allows smoking shelters in casinos and long-term care facilities; issues include lack of protection for casino workers (DM replied that since food/drink is not allowed in separate smoking shelters, workers' health is not an issue); the DM added that the province is committed to working with health units to apply the law and will support public health inspectors in anticipation of the May 31, 2008 deadline
- lack of pesticides bylaw consistency across Ontario (DM replied that the Public Health Division is establishing a new Environmental Health branch to assess these kinds of concerns and is monitoring bylaws as they grow in number)

Both Dr. Pasut and Ms. Rappolt were thanked for their time and efforts in presenting to the Board of Health Section.

3.2 Ontario Clean Water Act

Adrienne Scott and Ian Smith of the Ministry of Environment (MOE) presented on the Ontario Clean Water Act. The MOE is currently working on the regulatory framework to support this legislation.

The Clean Water Act outlines a role for boards of health in protecting the municipal sources of drinking water systems. Municipalities and boards of health may provide advice and counsel to the province through representation on the Source Protection Authority Board, the Source Protection Committee and, if established, the Source Protection Committee working groups. Once the Act is in effect, municipalities have the lead role in regulating significant drinking water threats. In moving forward, the Ministry of Environment plans to hold consultations in 2007 on draft regulatory components and looks forward to feedback from boards of health.

Concerns were expressed by Section members regarding the vast geographic reach of Source Protection Areas and the logistics involved for health units in delivering the Clean Water Act. These concerns were noted the by MOE representatives.

3.3 Tobacco Issues

Michael Perley of the Ontario Campaign for Action on Tobacco provided an update on the contraband tobacco issue. A summary handout providing background on the issue was distributed. M. Perley stressed that illegal tobacco products were a broad spectrum problem that was not simply limited to cigarettes manufactured and/or sold on native reserves. The problem involves large tobacco companies, products made in reserves finding their way to the mainstream marketplace, and convenience retailers selling cigarettes under the counter, for example. There is, surprisingly, no research on this issue. It should be noted that the recent reports of decreased consumption of cigarettes is skewed by the fact that these reports based on legally manufactured tobacco products. It is estimated 25% of the tobacco market is illegal. One consequence of this has been easier access to tobacco for youth.

M. Perley encouraged board of health members to do the following, among others, to discourage the rise of contraband tobacco products:

- lobby federal health minister Tony Clement and federal finance minister Jim Flaherty to levy more hefty fines
- debate local issues in communities, particularly the impact on children and youth
- garner media attention on the topic
- invite public to tell stories at town hall meetings

Section members were informed about the list of recommendations for action to government in a handout on illegal tobacco.

Before concluding, M. Perley offered to speak to boards of health and Councils in person on the issue. At the request of Section members, he agreed to draft a resolution for use by boards of health.

ACTION: - M. Perley to provide alPHa with a variety of resolutions for municipalities to distribute to boards of health on advocacy against contraband tobacco

4.0 BUSINESS ARISING / STANDING ITEMS

4.1 BOH Section Representation

Members were informed that there is a vacancy for a Board of Health Section seat on the current (2006-2007) alPHa Board of Directors. The vacancy had been created with the decision by Porcupine board of health member G. Hebert to not run again in the municipal elections this past November. The floor was opened for nominations for a representative to complete G. Hebert's term until June 2006. The following nominations took place:

Candidate: Marg Godawa (Haliburton, Kawartha Pine Ridge - HKPR)
Nominated by: P. Delanty (HKPR)
Seconded by: C. Herrington (HKPR)

Candidate: Maurice Tanguay (Porcupine)
Nominated by: J. Matko (Porcupine)
Seconded by: B. Gvozdanovic (Porcupine)

Candidate: Mary Johnson (Eastern Ontario)
Nominated by: B. Kilger (Eastern Ontario)
Seconded by: G. Leger (Eastern Ontario)

Motion: That the nominations for a Board of Health representative to fill the vacant Board of Health seat on the 2006-2007 alPHa Board of Directors be closed.

Moved by: L. Cyr (Algoma)
Seconded by: M. Leduc (Eastern Ontario)
Motion carried.

Each candidate was asked if they would let their name stand in the election process and replied in the affirmative. Volunteers were asked to assist with counting ballots.

Motion: That the Board of Health Section approve Larry O'Connor (Durham) and Valerie Sterling (Toronto) to act as scrutineers in the election of a board of health representative to the present alPHa Board of Directors.

Moved by: M. Harding (Thunder Bay)
Seconded by: H. Mulligan (Brant)
Motion carried.

The votes were counted with the most going to Mary Johnson (Eastern Ontario), who was congratulated.

Motion: That the ballots be destroyed.
Moved by: P. Delanty (HKPR)
Seconded by: B. Greenwood (Niagara)
Motion carried.

The ballots were destroyed following the motion.

4.2 aPHa Updates

No report due to time constraints. Most points were covered in other agenda items.

4.3.1 Provincial Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review

Pat Vanini, Executive Director, Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), presented her association's views on the Ontario government's Provincial-Municipal Fiscal and Service Delivery Review. Of great interest to AMO is the fiscal review and how programs and services are paid out of provincial ministries. AMO has consistently voiced opposition to the 1996 downloading of programs and services from the province to municipalities. AMO believes the present property tax system is unsustainable because not enough funding goes to municipalities for taking on such added responsibilities. Another problem arising from downloading is the lack of say municipalities have on how these downloaded programs are to be delivered in their communities. AMO believes a long-term exit strategy from the present property tax system is needed.

The Fiscal and Service Delivery Review will end in the spring of 2008 and much work still needs to be done. It was noted that other organizations (besides AMO) were allowed to provide input into the Review process and boards of health were advised to provide succinct feedback.

4.3.2 Food Premises Regulation

Last summer, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care amended the Food Premises Regulation (FPR), which has had an impact on public health's role in addressing food safety concerns at farmers' markets and special events. L. Stewart reported that the Minister himself had been critical of operational inconsistencies among health units in light of the new FPR. Recognizing a lack of a common approach, the Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors has produced guidelines for health units when addressing food safety at farmers' markets and special events – *Common Approaches for Farmers' Markets and Special Events: A Guide for Public Health Units*. aPHa has endorsed this document. The document will be sent to all health units for their endorsement as well as a letter to health minister Smitherman recognizing aPHa's support.

5.0 REPORTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

5.1 aPHa Board of Directors Strategic Planning

V. Blackmore reported on the aPHa Board's strategic planning session held January 31. He noted that a recent survey of members to assess aPHa services was used to inform the process.

5.2 Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation

As the Section's representative on the OCCHA board of directors, H. Mulligan outlined the accreditation body's purpose, initiatives, and Advisory Group, among other items. She reported on latest accreditation activities and indicated that some non-accredited health units have expressed interest in accreditation. For further information, visit <http://www.occha.org>

5.3 aPHa Advocacy Committee Update

L. Stewart reported that a number of resolutions have been closed since their operative clauses have been fulfilled.

6.0 NEXT MEETING

At 2007 alPHa Annual Conference, June 10-12, Windsor, ON.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:22 PM on a motion by J. Matko, which was seconded by B. Timms and carried.

Update from alPHA's Executive Director

June 11, 2007

STAFF NEWS

Cathy Dyer, Administrative Assistant with alPHA, accepted a Program Coordinator position with Children's Mental Health Ontario and left us in February. We wish Cathy well and thank her for her support and good work.

Karen Reece has joined alPHA's staff in the position of Administrative Assistant. Karen brings 5 years of office administration and bookkeeping experience to the role. Her most recent experience was as the Office Administrator for CUPE Local 1. She has also worked in advertising and pharmaceutical environments. Karen started with alPHA on February 13 and we are pleased to have her join our team.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Finance: Every year in preparation for creating the provincial budget the Minister of Finance holds a series of stakeholder meetings across Ontario. alPHA's President, Liana Nolan, made a presentation to Minister Sorbara in December. Dr. Nolan stressed the importance the social determinants of health play in determining population-level health. She focused on the need to address poverty in Ontario by drawing on alPHA's existing resolutions that address poverty.

- implement a non-refundable tax credit to be paid to poor families with children,
- review the minimum wage from a health perspective and establish a living wage that ensures housing and food security for all Ontario workers, and
- ensure that the basic allowance portion of Ontario Works financial assistance allows for adequate housing and nutrition.

Bill 171: alPHA prepared a response to the new Bill 171-Health Systems Improvements Act, 2007. The Act includes enabling legislation for the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, transfers the responsibility for the inspection of small drinking water systems from the Ministry of Environment to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, and establishes the position of Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health. alPHA submitted a written response in support of these initiatives and COMOH was selected to make a presentation to the Standing Committee. As of May 25, Bill 171 has been ordered for third reading and it is expected to pass before the summer recess.

Planning for Health: The Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has engaged the health sector in two exercises; one looking out 20 years to the future of health care in Ontario, and the second developing a 10-year strategic plan. alPHA participated in both of these processes. Health Promotion was identified by over 70% of the 500 plus persons participating in the strategic planning exercise as key in the future of the health system.

ACTIVITIES

The past few months have been busy with meetings and building relationships. I met with the Board of the Ontario Home Care Association to help them better understand the role public health plays in local communities. They are interested in exploring ways public health and home care can work more closely together, especially in the area of chronic disease prevention.

I also met with the vice-president of Children's Mental Health Ontario and agreed to help them promote children's Mental Health week (May 7 to 13) with health units.

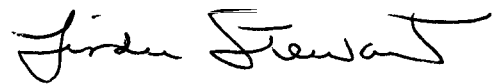
alPHa worked with the Public Health Agency of Canada to organize the first-ever conference on the Public's Health and the Law. The Toronto-based conference brought together legal, academic and public health professionals in early November. A highlight of the conference was a panel of four Justices who shared their views on the role of inquiries in public health policy development:

- Justice Roland Haines, Ontario Meat Regulatory and Inspection Review
- Justice Horace Krever, Commission of Inquiry on the Blood System in Canada
- Justice Robert Laing, North Battleford Water Inquiry
- Justice Dennis O'Connor, Walkerton Commission of Inquiry

On March 28, the Ministry of Health Promotion hosted a *Communications Symposium*. This was the result of an idea generated when alPHa met with staff from the Ministry's communications department in December. The symposium brought together communications staff from across public health to share communications programs and to begin a discussion of where government and public health can work together regarding communications and public messages.

On April 10, a Community Partnerships forum was held by Barb Riley, a researcher with the Centre for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation (CBRPE) at the University of Waterloo. The forum was also supported by the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP). Together CBRPE and MHP were looking for guidance for making decisions about community partnerships. As a group, we worked on a framework to develop key considerations that should influence the decisions that need to be made around supporting community partnerships for Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL). It should be noted that there is strong recognition that public health will continue to be a key player in the delivery of HEAL programs.

alPHa also supported the planning for two forums held by the Ontario Health Providers Alliance and the Ontario Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance. Both groups held forums that brought together key stakeholders with government and were designed to influence policy discussions in the area of chronic disease prevention.



Linda Stewart

Board Representation

- The Board of Health Section has a policy to ensure wider representation from the three distinct Board of Health structures on the alPHa Board and has therefore set aside seats representing each kind of Board structure:
 1. **County/district boards** are usually guaranteed 4 members on the alPHa Board of Directors. For the 2007-2008 term, there are two county/district seats available.
 2. **Health committees from regional governments/large single-tier municipalities** are guaranteed 2 members on the alPHa Board. For the 2007-2008 term, there are two seats available.
 3. **Toronto Board of Health** is guaranteed 1 member on the alPHa Board. For the 2007-2008 term, this seat is filled.
- This policy however, is subject to attendance of qualified candidates from each category during the elections.

2006/2007 Board of Health Section Members on the alPHa Board of Directors

- Board of Directors representing boards of health for the current 2006/2007 term, including vacancies to be filled during the June 2007 Board of Health Section meeting, are as follows:

Name	Sponsoring Board of Health	Year Elected	Term Ends	Type of Board
Vance Blackmore	Middlesex-London	June 2004	June 2007	County/District
Mary Johnson	Eastern Ontario	Feb. 2007 *	June 2007	County/District
Larry O'Connor	Durham Region	June 2004	June 2007	Regional/ Large Single Tier Municipality
Bruce Timms	Niagara Region	June 2004	June 2007	Regional/ Large Single Tier Municipality
Valerie Sterling	Toronto	June 2004	N/A **	
Maria Harding	Thunder Bay	Nov. 2005	June 2008	County/District
Helen Mulligan	Brant	Nov. 2005	June 2008	County/District

* at February 1, 2007 Board of Health Section Meeting, Toronto

** this position is appointed by the Toronto Board of Health and is a permanent position on the alPHa Board

Please note that with the exception of M. Johnson, each of the above individuals have served an 18-month term on the alPHa Board (i.e., Nov. 2005 - June 2007) in addition to a 12-month term.