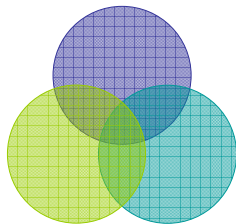


Join us at

Back to Basics

The Role of Risk in Public Health



*a workshop for
Medical Officers of Health, Board of Health members,
members of alPHa Affiliate Organizations and
Community Medicine Residents in Ontario*

Thursday, December 6 & Friday, December 7, 2007

Holiday Inn Toronto Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto

One of the cornerstones to public health practice is relying on scientific evidence to inform its policy-making decisions to reduce risk to the community. However, at times, evidence may not exist or if it does, may be inconclusive or controversial, triggering the need for precautionary measures. This workshop will explore the Precautionary Principle, its use in public health, and the role of evidence in science-based risk assessment and communication.

Preliminary Program at a Glance

Thursday, December 6

- 8:30 AM - 9:00 AM **WELCOMING REMARKS**
- 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM **PLENARY SESSION - The Precautionary Principle**
- CONCURRENT AFTERNOON SESSIONS:**
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Board of Health Section General Meeting**
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM **COMOH General Meeting**
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM **Meeting for Affiliates on alPHa Board of Directors**
- 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM **RECEPTION**

Friday, December 7

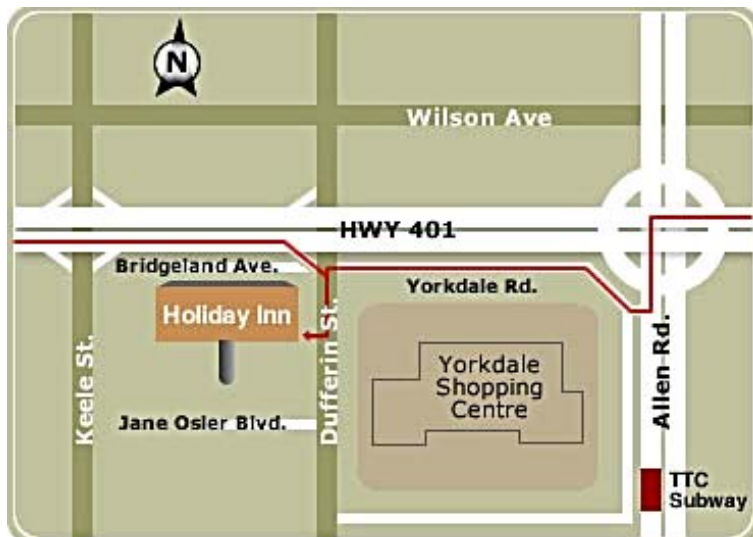
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM **MINISTER OF HEALTH PROMOTION (Invited)**
- 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM **PLENARY SESSION - Evidence, Risk and Communication**
- 1:00 PM **CONCLUSION**

All sessions and times are subject to change

Reserve your
guestroom AND
submit your
conference
registration form
before November 12
to be eligible for a
prize! See next page
for details.

Conference Location

All conference activities will take place at the **Holiday Inn Toronto Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street, midtown Toronto** (www.hiyorkdale.com/). Located 12 km from Lester B. Pearson International Airport, the hotel features a Spa Wellness Centre, newly decorated bedrooms, three restaurants, indoor pool, whirlpool and sauna, and a fitness centre. The hotel is situated across from the Yorkdale Shopping Centre, home to more than 240 stores.



Directions:

By car:

Westbound: Hwy. 401- exit Allen Rd., take Yorkdale Rd. N. Follow along north side of Yorkdale Shopping Centre. Cross Dufferin St. at the lights to Bridgeland Ave.; turn left into driveway.

Eastbound: Hwy. 401- exit Dufferin St. S. Turn right into Plaza Pontiac car dealership.

By subway:

Take Spadina line, exit at Yorkdale subway station. Exit station into shopping mall. Exit mall at Shoppers Drug Mart, cross mall parking lot to Dufferin St. Cross Dufferin St., turn right to reach pedestrian gate and cross hotel parking lot. Total walking distance from subway to hotel approx. 1 km.

Accommodation

A block of rooms is being held at the Holiday Inn Toronto Yorkdale for delegates attending the 2007 alPHA Fall Workshop. The special conference rate is \$139.95 per night, single or double occupancy, plus applicable taxes. **This rate is available until November 12, 2007.** Delegates must make their own reservations by calling toll-free 1-800-524-8436 or direct (416) 675-9636 and identifying themselves as an ALPHA delegate. Any changes or cancellation to reservations must be made prior to 6:00 PM day of arrival. Check-in time is 3:00 PM, check-out is 12:00 PM.

Early Bird Booking: Reserve a hotel room *and* submit a conference registration form **before** November 12, 2007 to be automatically entered into a draw to win a Dinner for Two voucher for use at the hotel's restaurants.

Parking Fee: Self parking at hotel is available at the rate of \$7.00 per day.

Airport/Hotel Transportation

The hotel offers City Taxi, which runs directly to Lester B. Pearson International Airport. A one-way flat rate charge of \$30.00 is applicable.

Conference Registration Fees

Full Conference Rate: (includes 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 reception, Thurs. & Fri. program sessions)	\$250+GST
Daily Rate: Thursday (incl. 1 breakfast, 1 lunch, 1 reception, Thurs. program session) Friday (incl. 1 breakfast, 1 lunch, Fri. program session)	\$175+GST \$125+GST
Community Medicine Resident Rate: Full Conference Rate: (includes 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 reception, all program sessions) Thursday only (incl. 1 breakfast, 1 lunch, 1 reception, Thurs. program session)	\$125+GST No charge \$87.50+GST No charge

Cancellation Policy: Notify alPHA on or before **November 16, 2007** for full refund of registration fees. Cancellations after this date but before 4:30 pm, November 26, are subject to a 20% processing fee. No refund for cancellations after November 26, 2007 or for no shows. Substitutions are welcomed but please notify our office.

Preliminary Program Details

All meeting rooms are on the Main Floor of the hotel



Thursday, December 6

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST	Foyer-deHavilland Hall
8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	WELCOMING REMARKS	deHavilland Hall
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	PLENARY SESSION - The Precautionary Principle <i>Although the precautionary principle was originally framed in the context of preventing environmental harm, it is now widely accepted as applying broadly where there is threat of harm to human, animal or plant health, as well as in situations where there is a threat of environmental damage. This session will examine the Precautionary Principle as it is applied in public health practice, its purpose, conditions for use, and what its application means for public health policies. Speaker Panel.</i>	deHavilland Hall
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	LUNCH	Atrium
CONCURRENT AFTERNOON SESSIONS:		
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Board of Health Section General Meeting <i>This is an opportunity for any board of health member to meet colleagues from other boards and discuss issues of mutual concern. The agenda, set by the Board of Health Section Executive in advance, will also feature special guest speakers.</i>	deHavilland Hall
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Meeting for Affiliates on alPHA Board of Directors <i>This is an opportunity for the affiliate representatives on the alPHA Board to meet and discuss issues of mutual concern.</i>	Humber Room
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	COMOH General Meeting <i>This is an opportunity for medical officers of health to meet colleagues from other health units and discuss issues of mutual concern. The agenda, set by the COMOH Executive in advance, will also feature special guest speakers.</i>	York South
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	RECEPTION <i>Network with public health colleagues in this informal mix and mingle. Refreshments will be provided; drinks may be purchased.</i>	Atrium
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	alPHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	William Room

Friday, December 7

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST	Foyer-deHavilland Hall
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	MINISTER OF HEALTH PROMOTION (Invited)	deHavilland Hall
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM	PLENARY SESSION - Evidence, Risk and Communication <i>For public health officials, the weight of evidence plays a major role in making decisions that affect the health of the public. Carefully analyzing accurate data and using proven research findings are fundamental to evidence-based decision-making. This session will explore the role of evidence as it relates to risk assessment and communication in public health. Speaker: Dr. Tim Sly, Ryerson University.</i>	deHavilland Hall
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	LUNCH	Atrium
1:00 PM	CONCLUDING REMARKS AND END OF MEETING	

All sessions and times are subject to change

Plenary Session Details

Day One - The Precautionary Principle (December 6, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM)

Moderator: **Dr. Erica Weir**, Associate Medical Officer of Health, York Region Public Health Services

Panelists: **Dr. David Salisbury**, Medical Officer of Health, Ottawa Public Health; Senior Consultant in Aviation Medicine, Civil Aviation Medicine Branch, Transport Canada
Dr. Lesbia Smith, Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health Sciences, Gage Occupational and Environmental Health Unit, and Associate, Centre for Environment, University of Toronto; Clinical Research Associate of the Institute of Environment and Health, McMaster University.
Dr. Ross Upshur, Director, Joint Centre for Bioethics, University of Toronto; Physician, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre
Dr. Gaynor Watson-Creed, Medical Officer of Health, Capital District Health Authority, Halifax, NS
Dr. Kumanan Wilson, Physician, General Internal Medicine, Toronto General Hospital; Associate Professor, Departments of Medicine and Health Policy, Management and Evaluation, University of Toronto

Health experts will provide presentations on evidence and public health, the purpose and use of the Precautionary Principle, and examples from the field and experience in applying the Precautionary Principle to public health practice. A general discussion by panel members will follow, including consideration of the consequences of acting on precaution.

Day Two - Evidence, Risk and Communication (December 7, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM)

Speaker: **Dr. Tim Sly**, Professor, School of Occupational and Public Health; Associate Professor, School of Graduate Studies, Ryerson University

Faced with increasingly restricted resources and firmer demands for accountability, decision-making in the health sciences has become risk-based. Quantitative risk assessment (QRA) is well supported by a competent cadre of analysts, drawn largely from engineering and applied science fields. However, the process of effective and efficient risk management also requires experience and ability in the interpretation and communication of those risks. This has been largely neglected to the extent that the target populations often feel betrayed and alienated. Communication about their risks using technical jargon riddled with complex exponential terminology does not satisfy their need to understand and participate, and usually inflames the issue, further reducing the trust and credibility of the individual or agency. In short, we are doing a bad job at communicating risks, largely because we do not understand the process by which people perceive the risks to their health and safety. Participants should be able to (i) examine and account for the rift between the "expert" and "lay" perceptions of risk, (ii) list basic principles of effective risk communications, and (iii) illustrate these principles using examples of both poor and good examples of risk communications. A seven-point checklist in risk communication for health agencies will also be presented.

REGISTRATION FORM

Delegate's Name: _____

Title: _____

Health Unit/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____ Tel: _____

E-mail: _____

Special food and/or other requirements: _____

Please indicate delegate's position: BOH Member A/MOH Affiliate*: _____ Other: _____

(* Affiliate organizations of alPHa incl. ANDSOOHA, APHEO, AOPHBA, ASPHIO, HPO, OAPHD, OSNPPH)

Please check the functions you will attend:

Thursday, December 6	<input type="radio"/> 8:00 AM	Breakfast
	<input type="radio"/> 12:00 PM	Lunch
	<input type="radio"/> 5:00 PM	Reception
	<input type="radio"/> 6:00 PM	alPHa Board of Dirs. Meeting
Friday, December 7	<input type="radio"/> 8:00 AM	Breakfast
	<input type="radio"/> 12:00 PM	Lunch

Registration Fees:

Full Conference Rate \$250 \$ _____

Daily Rate

Thursday \$175 \$ _____

Friday \$125 \$ _____

Community Medicine Resident Rate

Full Conference Rate ~~\$125~~ No charge

Thursday ~~\$87.50~~ No charge

Plus 6% GST (#127380822RT) \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

(Please make cheque payable to Association of Local Public Health Agencies)

Please return completed registration form with full payment to:

ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES

425 University Avenue, Suite 502

Toronto ON M5G 1T6

Tel: (416) 595-0006 Fax: (416) 595-0030

E-mail: karen@alphaweb.org

Note: Requests for refunds will not be accepted after November 26, 2007.