

# Hastings Prince Edward Public Health Board of Health Meeting

Information Items

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

### Listing of Information Items Board of Health Meeting – May 4, 2022

- 1. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Letter to Christine Elliott re: response to the opioid crisis in Simcoe Muskoka and Ontario-wide dated March 16, 2022
- 2. Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Letter to Christine Elliott re: Letter of Support health and equity: denouncing acts and symbols of hate dated March 30, 2022
- 3. Windsor-Essex County Health Unit Letter to Christine Elliott re: Letter of Support Ontario Regulation 116/20, work deployment measures for boards of health dated March 30, 2022
- 4. Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit Email re Board of Health motion in support of OPHA statement against displays of racism, anti-semitism and discrimination
- 5. alPHa Annual General Meeting and Conference Information June 13 and 14, 2022



March 16, 2022

The Honourable Christine Elliott Minister of Health House of Commons Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Elliott:

### Re: Response to the Opioid Crisis in Simcoe Muskoka and Ontario-wide

On March 16, 2022, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) Board of Health endorsed a set of provincial recommendations to help address the ongoing and escalating opioid crisis experienced within Simcoe Muskoka and province-wide. Despite regional activities in response to the opioid crisis, there remains an urgent need for heightened provincial attention and action to promptly and adequately address the extensive burden of opioid-related deaths being experienced by those who use substances.

In the 19 months of available data since the start of the pandemic (March 2020 to September 2021) there have been 245 opioid-related deaths in Simcoe Muskoka. This is nearly 70% higher than the 145 opioid-related deaths in the 19 months prior to the start of the pandemic (August 2018 to February 2020), when our communities were already struggling in the face of this crisis. The first nine months of 2021 saw an opioid-related death rate more than 33% higher than the first nine months of 2020, suggesting the situation has not yet stabilized.

As such, the SMDHU Board of Health urges your government to take the following actions:

- 1. Create a multisectoral task force to guide the development of a robust provincial opioid response plan that will ensure necessary resourcing, policy change, and health and social system coordination.
- 2. Expand access to evidence informed harm reduction programs and practices including lifting the provincial cap of 21 Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) Sites, funding Urgent Public Health Needs Sites (UPHNS) and scaling up safer opioid supply options.
- 3. Explore revisions to the current CTS model to address the growing trends of opioid poisoning amongst those who are using inhalation methods.
- 4. Expand access to opioid agonist therapy for opioid use disorder through a range of settings (e.g. mobile outreach, primary care, emergency departments), and a variety of medication options.
- 5. Provide a long-term financial commitment to create more affordable and supportive housing for people in need, including people with substance use disorders.
- 6. Address the structural stigma and harms that discriminate against people who use drugs, through provincial support and advocacy to the Federal government to decriminalize personal use and possession of substances and ensure increased investments in health and social services at all levels.

- 7. Increase investments in evidence-informed substance use prevention and mental health promotion initiatives, that provide foundational support for the health, safety and well-being of individuals, families, and neighbourhoods, beginning from early childhood.
- 8. Fund a fulltime position of a Drug Strategy Coordinator/Lead for the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy.

The SMDHU Board of Health has endorsed these recommendations based on the well-demonstrated need for a coordinated, multi-sectoral approach that addresses the social determinants of health and recognizes the value of harm reduction strategies alongside substance use disorder treatment strategies, as part of the larger opioid crisis response. Evidence has shown that harm reduction strategies can prevent overdoses, save lives, and connect people with treatment and social services. Further, there is an urgent need to change the current Canadian drug policy to allow a public health response to substance use, through decriminalization of personal use and possession paired with avenues towards health and social services, as our Board called for in 2018. These recommendations collectively promote effective public health and safety measures to address the social and health harms associated with substance use.

Sincerely,

### **ORIGINAL Signed By:**

Anita Dubeau Board of Health Chair Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

cc: Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
Attorney General of Ontario
Chief Medical Officer of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Health
Ontario Boards of Health
Members of Parliament in Simcoe Muskoka
Members of Provincial Parliament in Simcoe Muskoka
Mayors and Municipal Councils in Simcoe Muskoka

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1005 Ouellette Avenue, Windsor, ON N9A 4J8 | 33 Princess Street, Leamington, ON N8H 5C5

March 30, 2022

The Honourable Christine Elliott Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Ministry of Health College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:

### Letter of Support - Health and Racial Equity: Denouncing Acts and Symbols of Hate

On March 24, 2022 at a regular meeting of the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health, the Board considered a letter from Sudbury & Districts Public Health to Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, President of alPHa, encouraging other Ontario Boards of Health and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa), to endorse the January 31, 2022 statement of the Ontario Public Health Association Denouncing Acts and Symbols of Hate.

The following motion was passed:

Motion:

That the WECHU Board of Health support the letter from Sudbury & Districts Public Health to Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, President, Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), endorsing the January 31, 2022 statement of the Ontario Public Health Association Denouncing Acts and **Symbols of Hate** 

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit fully supports the above recommendation, and thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary McNamara, Chair

Windsor-Essex County Board of Health

Nicole Dupuis, CEO, WECHU c: Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa

> Ontario Boards of Health Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Parm Gill, Minister of Citizenship and Multiculturalism

Sean Fraser, Minister of immigration, Refugee and Citizenship, Government of Canada



February 23, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dr. Paul Roumeliotis
President
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
480 University Avenue, Suite 300
Toronto, ON M5G 1V2

Dear Dr. Roumeliotis:

Re: Health and Racial Equity: Denouncing Acts and Symbols of Hate

At its meeting on February 17, 2022, the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts carried the following resolution #08-22:

WHEREAS the reduction of health inequities is a goal of Ontario's public health programs and services as set out in the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS), health equity is a Foundational Standard of the OPHS, and programs and services must be implemented in accordance with the Health Equity Guideline which includes the requirement to apply anti racist, anti-oppressive, and culturally safe approaches to public health practice; and

WHEREAS the Vision of the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts, Healthier communities for all, is further guided by its Mission and Strategic Plan, both of which prioritize action in support of health equity; and

WHEREAS the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts is a leader among Ontario local public health agencies in their longstanding commitment to health and racial equity, including notably, the September 2019 endorsement of the Racial Equity Action Framework for Improved Health Equity; and

WHEREAS recent events in Ontario have included public displays of racism, anti Semitism and discrimination, all detrimental to optimal health for all and prompting the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) on January 31, 2022, to issue the following statement:

While the right to protest is a fundamental element of our democracy, OPHA is disturbed by the hate filled racist and white supremacist symbols and messages flowing from the demonstrations in Ottawa. We denounce all forms of hate, bigotry, racism, antisemitism, and discrimination. Acts and

### Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street Sudbury ON P3E 3A3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.522.5182

#### **Elm Place**

10 rue Elm Street Unit / Unité 130 Sudbury ON P3C 5N3 t: 705.522.9200 f: 705.677.9611

### Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street Box / Boîte 58 St.-Charles ON POM 2W0 t: 705.222.9201 f: 705.867.0474

#### Espanola

800 rue Centre Street Unit / Unité 100 C Espanola ON P5E 1J3 t: 705.222.9202 f: 705.869.5583

#### Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542 Box / Boîte 87 Mindemoya ON POP 1S0 t: 705.370.9200 f: 705.377.5580

### Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street Box / Boîte 485 Chapleau ON POM 1K0 t: 705.860.9200 f: 705.864.0820

### toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



Re: Health and Racial Equity: Denouncing Acts and Symbols of Hate February 23, 2022 Page 2

symbols of hate are unwelcome and should not be tolerated. Silence is not acceptable. We urge political leaders from all levels & parties to speak out against such hate and racism, and to promote the importance of vaccines and other public health measures that are protecting all of us, especially the most vulnerable, against illness, hospitalization, & death. Change can only happen when we stand up and speak out. Let's work together to build a society that values diversity, inclusion, and optimal health for all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts endorse the January 31, 2022, statement of the OPHA; and

FURTHER THAT the Board of Health encourage other Ontario boards of health and the Association of Local Public Health Agencies to do the same; and

FURTHER THAT that this resolution be shared with all boards of health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, area Honorable Members of Parliament and Provincial Parliament, the Ontario Public Health Association, the Association Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), among other stakeholders.

A reduction of health inequities is a goal of Ontario's public health programs and services as set out in the OPHS. Both alPHa and local Boards of Health have a long-standing history of supporting various health equity measures (e.g., food security, Truth and Reconciliation Commission calls to action, living wage, low-income dental, use of a health equity lens, national pharmacare, extending the Ontario Pregnancy and Breastfeeding Nutritional Allowance). Thanks to efforts like these, public health addresses the social determinants of health and promotes health equity. There is still work to be done. Recent events in Ontario have included public displays of racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination, all detrimental to optimal health for all. In supporting health for all, it is important that public health not remain silent and instead state that acts and symbols of hate are unwelcome and should not be tolerated. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC

Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: All Ontario Boards of Health

Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies Pageen Walsh, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association Jamie McGarvey, President, Association of Municipalities Ontario Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin Paul Lefebvre, Member of Parliament, Sudbury Marc Serré, Member of Parliament, Nickel Belt Carol Hugues, Member of Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing

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March 30, 2022

The Honourable Christine Elliott Minister of Health and Deputy Premier Ministry of Health College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:

Letter of Support - Ontario Regulation 116/20, Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health

On March 24, 2022 at a regular meeting of the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health, the Board considered a letter from Cynthia St. John, President of the Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA) to Dr. Kieran Moore, CMOH, requesting that Dr. Moore consider extending Ontario Regulation 116/20 Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health for the duration of public health units' response to the **COVID-19 pandemic.** The following motion was passed:

Motion:

That the WECHU Board of Health support the letter from the AOPHBA to the CMOH, Dr. Kieran Moore, requesting that Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health be extended for the duration of public health units' response to the COVID-19 pandemic. **CARRIED** 

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit fully supports the above recommendation, and thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary McNamara, Chair

Windsor-Essex County Board of Health

c: Nicole Dupuis, CEO, WECHU Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa Ontario Boards of Health Dr. Kieran, Moore, CMOH Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario



Sent via email to: Kieran.moore1@ontario.ca

February 9, 2022

Dr. Kieran Moore Chief Medical Officer of Health Ministry of Health

RE: Ontario Regulation 116/20, Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health

Dear Dr. Moore,

On behalf of the Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA), I am writing to you concerning the Ontario Regulation 116/20, Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health.

This Regulation, in place since April 2020, has proven invaluable in ensuring that public health units (PHUs) are able to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since April 2020, public health work has evolved and changed rapidly in response to both local and provincial directions and demands in areas such as case and contact management, outbreak management in our most vulnerable settings, the development and implementation of the vaccination program, and the continued support and leadership provided to community partners including businesses, municipalities, schools, health related agencies, etc.

It is the opinion of the Association Executive that public health units' continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic will be significantly negatively impacted if PHUs do not have the flexibility necessary to deploy staff how and where needed. PHUs have one or more unions within their employ and many of our members have noted that the restrictions of the various collective agreements often do not allow redeployment of PHU staff to different roles or different areas within the PHU, nor assignment of work on weekends, evenings, and holidays, all of which have been critical to vaccine clinics. The flexibility that this Ontario Regulation provides is critical to our ability to continue to plan and execute both local and provincial directives in line with our mandate, for the balance of 2022.

We respectively ask that you consider extending Ontario Regulation 116/20 Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health for the duration of public health units' response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Cynthia St. John

Existic St. John

President

Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA)

c. Brent Feeney, Manager, Funding and Oversight, Office of the CMOH, Ministry of Health Teresa Bendo, Secretary, AOPHBA
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa)

From: Elizabeth Dickson <edickson@hkpr.on.ca> Item 4

To:

**Date:** 2022-03-30 12:02 PM

Subject: [allhealthunits] HKPRDHU Board of Health motion in support of OPHA statement against displays of racism, anti-

Semitism and discrimination, & Sudbury & Districts Public Health's statement about public health not remaining silent

Good afternoon,

At its meeting held on March 17, 2022, our Board of Health passed the follow motion in support of OPHA's statement against displays of racism, anti-Semitism and discrimination (tweets dated January 31, 2022), and Sudbury & Districts Public Health's statement about public health not remaining silent.

Moved by Mr. Crate Seconded by Mr. Henderson THAT the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit endorse the Ontario Public Health Association's statement posted January 31, 2022; and FURTHER THAT the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit endorse Sudbury & Districts Public Health's statement that, "It is important that public health not remain silent and instead state that acts and symbols of hate are unwelcome and should not be tolerated"; and

FURTHER THAT other Ontario boards of health and the Association for Local Public Health Agencies do the same; and

FURTHER THAT these motions be shared with all boards of health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, area Members of Parliament and Provincial Parliament, the Ontario Public Health Association, and the Association for Municipalities of Ontario.

(OPHA statement posted on social media January 31, 2022

If you have any questions, I would happy to answer them.

Take care,

Elizabeth Dickson (*she/her*)
Executive Assistant, Office of the Medical Officer of Health and Board of Health Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit 200 Rose Glen Road
Port Hope, ON L1A 3V6
1-866-888-4577 x1466

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Association of Local Public Health Agencies

2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE:

June 14, 2022



Great Lakes Waterfront Trail Photo Credit: City of Cornwall

### **DRAFT**

alPHa's 2022 Annual Conference is being held online and will continue the conversation on the critical role of Local Public Health in the province's Public Health System.

The event includes alPHa's Annual General Meeting, consideration of Resolutions, Plenary Sessions with guest speakers, Section Meetings, and the presentation of the 2022 Distinguished Service Awards.

Stay tuned for further information on the program and registration details.

Don't forget to hold the date: June 14th!



Co-hosted by alPHa and the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, with generous support from the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health





### Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aIPHa) Annual General Meeting and Conference June 13 and 14, 2022





## Conference and AGM June 14, 2022

Draft as of April 19, 2022

Note: Meeting is hosted via Zoom Webinar All times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)

Celebrating Eastern Ontario Video	8:00 am - 8:15 am
Call to Order, Greetings, and Land Acknowledgement	8:15 am - 8:30 am
Syd Gardiner, Chair, Board of Health, EOHU Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Medical Officer of Health, EOHU, alPHa President, & Conference Chair	
Trudy Sachowski, alPHa Vice-President	
Welcoming Remarks	
Steini Brown, Dean, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto	
Update from Ontario Health	8:30 am - 9:00 am
Speaker: Matt Anderson, President and CEO, Ontario Health	
Update from Public Health Ontario TBD.	9:00 am - 9:30 am
Harnessing the promise of a learning health system in public health: Challenges and Opportunities	9:30 am - 10 am
Speaker: Dr. Ross Upshur, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto	
The idea of a learning health system is gaining traction in discussions focused on integrated health systems. Thus far, public health has not figured prominently in these discussions. In this presentation, Dr. Upshur will outline the reasons why including public health is critical	
to the success of a learning health system.	
Fitness Break	10:00 am - 10:15 am
Return from the break at 10:05 am to join in on a few minutes of active fun to recharge and refocus.	
Combined alPHa Business Meeting and Resolutions Session	10:15 am - noon
AGM and Resolutions Chair: Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, alPHa President Parliamentarian: Dr. Robert Kyle, alPHa Treasurer	

<b>Distinguished Service Awards</b> Service Award (DSA) is awarded by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies to individuals in recognition of their outstanding contributions made to public health in Ontario.	Noon - 12:30 pm
Speaker & MC: Dr. Jackie Schleifer Taylor, President & Chief Executive Officer, London Health Sciences Centre Moderator: Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Medical Officer of Health, EOHU, alPHa President, & Conference Chair	
Lunch Break	12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
Section Meetings Members of the BOH Section and COMOH meet separately in the afternoon. Board of Health members are asked to stay with the Zoom webinar platform. COMOH members will join a separate meeting.	1:30 pm - 4 pm

Co-hosted by alPHa and the Eastern Ontario Health Unit, with generous support from the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health







### NOTICE

### 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the 2022 Annual General Meeting of the **ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES (aIPHa)** will be held online on **Tuesday, June 14, 2022, at 10:15 AM Eastern Daylight Time** at the *2022 Annual Conference*, for the following purposes:

- 1. To consider and approve the minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting;
- 2. To receive and adopt the annual reports from the President, Executive Director, Section Chairs and others, as appropriate;
- 3. To consider and approve the Audited Financial Statement for 2021-2022;
- 4. To appoint an auditor for 2022-2023; and
- 5. To transact such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

DATED at Toronto, Ontario March 11, 2022.

BY THE ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

**Loretta Ryan**Executive Director



### Pre-Conference Workshop - June 13, 2022

### **LEAD WITH "AND"**

The Secret to Resilience and Results in a Polarized World

1:00pm - 4:00pm EST

As a public health leader, you're committed to making the world a better place. But when it comes to moving things forward, does it often seem like you're fighting an uphill battle against impossible demands, and unreasonable people?

This secret is to move beyond the traditional Either/Or approach to solving problems and embrace the transformational power of Both/And thinking.

Learn how to rise above polarity, division, and conflicting values. Join effective leaders from around the world who have the courage to *Lead with AND* to become more resilient in your day-to-day life.

1:00-2:00 THE SECRET TO SUSTAINABILITY - Care for Others AND Care for Yourself\*

2:00-3:00 OUTSMARTING CHANGE - Embrace Change AND Preserve Stability\*

3:00-4:00 THE HIGH-PERFORMANCE PARADOX - Have Expectations AND Extend Grace\*

\* See the following page for session descriptions.

**NOTE** – This workshop <u>is included</u> with your conference registration.

### **WORKSHOP LEADER:**



Tim Arnold has spent over two decades helping clients that include The United Nations, Royal Bank of Canada, and Compassion International, manage complexity, increase resilience, and deliver results. As a sought-after speaker and consultant, he helps leaders around the globe unleash the superpower of Both/And thinking in an Either/Or world. Beyond leadership and team development, Tim is an avid fisherman, world traveller, and really bad hockey player.

### **LEAD WITH "AND"**

The Secret to Resilience and Results in a Polarized World

### **SESSION DESCRIPTIONS:**

### **THE SECRET TO SUSTAINABILITY** - Care for Others AND Care for Yourself

When looking beneath the surface of some of the most incredible difference makers in recent history you'll often find family breakdowns, health issues, and burnout. The sad reality is that making a difference often comes at a high personal cost. Is there a way to lay down your life and have a life? Is there a secret to caring for others while not neglecting yourself in the process? Identify self-care practices that are meaningful and manageable and find ways to fit them into your day.

### **OUTSMARTING CHANGE -** Embrace Change AND Preserve Stability

The reward for leadership success is often more work, and there are more opportunities coming your way than ever before; potential partnerships, new services, growth and expansion. The question is, "how much is too much?" How do you know when the benefits of change and innovation are coming at the expense of your mission? Learn to skillfully pivot and leverage opportunities while holding on to core values and proven practices.

### **THE HIGH-PERFORMANCE PARADOX -** Have Expectations AND Extend Grace

You know that goals and objectives can increase motivation, focus, and performance. You also know that as a leader it's your job to see and call out the best in others. At the same time, non-stop, high expectations can lead to resentment, stress and burnout. Beyond that, everyone you work with is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Learn how to be driven towards goals and excellence while having empathy and acceptance with yourself and others.



# 2022 alpha fitness Challenge





alPHa is once again holding the Boards of Health and Public Health Unit Fitness Challenge. The challenge to our members is to engage in physical activity for at least 30 minutes during the month of May.

Participate and share it on Twitter. Don't forget to include in your tweet: a picture, @PHAgencies and hashtag #PublicHealthLeaders.
We'll profile your Fitness Challenge activities at the alPHa Conference that is taking place June 14, 2022.



The physical activity is to be completed at anytime during the month of May. Any physical activity of a 30-minute duration is encouraged. Be creative and have fun!

READY - Decide on an activity.

SET - Participation of a minimum of 30 minutes of physical activity.

GO - Post your tweets with pictures and include: @PHAgencies and #PublicHealthLeaders

### **Easy Tips to Get Active!**

**At Home** - Work in the garden or mow the grass. Using a riding mower doesn't count! Rake leaves, prune, and dig. Go out for a short walk before breakfast, after dinner or both! Start with 5-10 minutes and work up to 30 minutes.

**At Work** - Many of us have sedentary jobs. If you can, use active transportation to get to and from your workplace. Go for a walk at lunchtime. Incorporate these activities into your work day. Start with short walks and work up to longer trips.

**At Play** - Play and recreation are important for good health. Look for opportunities to be active and have fun at the same time: Plan activities that include physical activity (hiking, backpacking, swimming, etc.). Do your favorite physical activities and regularly go walking, jogging, bicycling or wheeling.