

Anti-Racist Health

A resolution adopted at the 1992 OPHA Annual General Meeting

Code: 1992-07 (RES) **Status:** Archived

WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Association recognizes that racism at the individual, institutional and systemic levels exists in the health care and community health environment; and

WHEREAS the Report of the Adviser on Race Relations (Stephen Lewis report) recommends the establishment of fundamental government initiatives to deal with racism and directs the Ministry of Citizenship to develop a system which allows foreign trained professionals to work in their respective fields in Ontario; and

WHEREAS the development of anti-racist health policy is an important step towards overcoming the problem of racism in the health care and community health system; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ministry of Health guidelines, Let's Work Together, while failing to recognize the impact of systemic racism as a barrier to good health, provide a blueprint for anti-racist organizational change in the health sector;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT OPHA call upon the government of Ontario to make the adoption of the Let's Work Together guidelines mandatory for all health care and community health organizations in the province; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPHA call upon all constituent societies, its divisions, committees, and its membership to participate in anti-racist organizational development which includes: a) identify what practices/structures need to be changed, b) determining what supports (training, education, sanctions, etc.) are necessary, c) planning and implementing the required changes, and d) reviewing, monitoring and institutionalizing these changes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPHA increase its efforts to involve in active membership and leadership persons who belong to the non-dominant ethno-cultural communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT OPHA call upon academic organizations and professional institutions to develop bridging programmes for health care workers trained outside of Canada;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT OPHA call for the inclusion of anti-racism training for all health professionals through curriculum development in all health related programmes, as well as ongoing professional development through professional associations.

Regarding resolutions, position papers and motions:

Status: Policy statements (resolutions, position papers and motions) are categorized as:

ACTIVE, if:

1. The activities outlined in the policy statement's implementation plan have not yet been completed; or
2. The policy statement addresses an issue that is currently relevant to public health in Ontario.

ARCHIVED, if:

1. The activities outlined in the policy statement's implementation plan have been completed; or
2. The policy statement addresses an issue that is not currently relevant to public health in Ontario or is not based upon the most current evidence. The statement remains the position of the OPHA until a new statement is adopted that effectively reverses or essentially negates all or major elements of an earlier statement. In this instance, the former supersedes the latter

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