

## **Continuation of Funding to Ensure Sustainable Heart Health Promotion Programming in Ontario**

A resolution adopted at the 2001 OPHA Annual General Meeting

*Code:* 2001-01 (RES)      *Status:* Active

### **RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS cardiovascular disease and other chronic diseases continue to be the major causes of morbidity and mortality in Ontario;

WHEREAS the recent *Health Care in Canada Survey, 2000* indicates that 91% of Canadians support greater emphasis on health promotion

AND FURTHER that the *Report on the Health Status of Residents of Ontario* (Public Health Research, Education and Development Program, February 2000) has called for:

1. adequate resourcing of prevention programs and
2. balancing the availability of treatment services with prevention efforts

WHEREAS disease prevention programming is compatible with the established role of public health;

AND FURTHER that Boards of Health in Ontario continue to be the most appropriate agent to play a lead role in mobilizing community partners, planning and implementation of cardiovascular disease prevention programs;

WHEREAS the provincial heart health strategy provides a framework for action enhancing the capacity of the community to develop and sustain comprehensive, integrated community-based heart health and food security strategies;

AND multi-risk factor programming supported by the Ontario Heart Health initiative takes a broader chronic disease prevention approach that also impacts diabetes, cancer and asthma through such programs as Eat Smart and tobacco use prevention policy and programs;

WHEREAS coalitions with adequate and consistent financial and human resources over a long term have proven to be an effective means of multi-sectoral action

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AND capacity and momentum in integrated heart health and food security strategies are entering a stage where success is just beginning to have a demonstrated impact;

WHEREAS the Ministry of Health is only one funder in the process with health units and community partners contributing at least 2/3's of the program support and

WHEREAS jointly managed provincial funds have been a major catalyst to this local contribution; and

WHEREAS without continuity of provincial funding, the capacity of community partners to sustain local program coordination and implementation would be compromised;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)\* urge the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to provide enhanced and sustainable funding to the Provincial Heart Health Strategy;

AND FURTHER, that the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)\* work with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to support policy and program strategies which prevent cardiovascular and other chronic diseases in the population, including a provincial resource system which ensures access by public and community health professionals to on-going research, training and support.

**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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