



Ontario Public Health Association
 l'Association pour la santé publique de l'Ontario
 Established/Etabli 1949

The mission of OPHA is to provide leadership on issues affecting the public's health and to strengthen the impact of people who are active in public and community health throughout Ontario.

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Constituent Societies
 ANDSOOHA - Public Health
 Nursing Management in Ontario

Association of Ontario
 Health Centres

Association of Public Health
 Epidemiologists in Ontario

Association of Supervisors of Public
 Health Inspectors of Ontario

Canadian Institute of Public
 Health Inspectors (Ontario Branch)

Community Health Nurses' Initiatives
 Group (RNAO)

Health Promotion Ontario:
 Public Health

Ontario Association of Public Health
 Dentistry

Ontario Public Health Libraries
 Association

Ontario Society of Nutrition
 Professionals in Public Health

Public Health Research, Education
 and Development (PHRED)
 Program

Charitable Registration
 Number 11924 8771 RR0001

May 15, 2009

The Honourable David Caplan
 Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
 Hepburn Block, 10th Floor
 80 Grosvenor Street
 Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Caplan:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Constituent Societies of the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA), I am writing to express our support for the recommendations articulated in Toronto Public Health's *Food Safety in Toronto* and *Foodborne Illnesses in Toronto* reports, to acknowledge the progress that has been made with regard to reviewing and amending *Ontario Regulation 562 (Food Premises)* and to request that action be taken to address several key recommendations that are remaining.

Measures such as:

- mandatory food handler certification,
- a fish inspection program
- requiring the display of permits issued by health units at all food service premises, including businesses that are attached to or form part of private residences in the Health Protection and Promotion Act,
- requiring that all food offered for sale to the public be sourced from local, provincial, federal or internationally inspected sources and suppliers

are critical steps towards maintaining the integrity of our food supply.

We look forward to working with you on implementing effective measures towards ensuring that Ontario remains one of the best places in Canada to live, work and raise a family.

Sincerely,

Carol Timmings
 President