

OPHA is pleased to announce the winners of the following awards, presented at the 2016 OPHA Fall Forum on November 8, 2016 at the Toronto Metro Convention Centre.

Award of Excellence

As an Environmental Health Specialist at York Region's Community and Health Services Department, **Kevin Haley**, has demonstrated excellence not only in his work at the community level but beyond. As a founding member of the OPHA's Health and the Built Environment Workgroup, Kevin Haley understood the importance and potential of a collaborative relationship between Public Health and planning professionals. Kevin initiated the Public Health and Planning 101 project, which created an on-line education module to increase cross-disciplinary knowledge among public health and planning professionals involved in land use planning to help inform policy related to healthy built environments and promote effective collaboration between these two groups of professionals.

Over 500 people - from public health, planners at all levels of government, the private and academic sectors and students - not only from Ontario but other provinces and from outside of Canada as well, have registered for the module in just a few short months. The evaluation findings show very high levels of satisfaction with the course content. Participants strongly agreed that the course will assist Public Health and Planning professionals to better collaborate and an overwhelming majority said they will recommend this course to their colleagues.

While Kevin will say that the outcome of the project was a team effort, those involved will tell you that Kevin Haley's leadership ensured its success.

Kevin's colleagues have described him as a "flexible, patient, pragmatic and optimistic" leader and his determination to the cause of creating a better understanding amongst health stakeholders is worthy of recognition. We are delighted to be able to bring a spotlight to this innovative and exceptional work and honor Kevin by conferring him with OPHA's Award of Excellence.

Legacy Award

This year, OPHA is pleased present this award to **Sue Makin**. Sue recently retired from Toronto Public Health where she served as Director of Healthy Families Director for almost 30 years. While I will speak in a minute to Sue's impressive contributions there, allow me to first describe how she made a difference at OPHA.

Sue came on board in 2012 as President and Board Chair of OPHA after having been a long time member of our association, including chairing OPHA's Child and Youth Health workgroup.

Sue successfully steered OPHA through a challenging time resulting from changes in government funding, divesting of various well known programs, moving OPHA's head office and carving out a new mandate for OPHA's long standing Nutrition Resource Centre. These changes and the resulting transitions set the stage for OPHA to move forward with a more focussed agenda, with greater emphasis on membership, advocacy, systems leadership and financial sustainability.

OPHA's board and staff team especially appreciated Sue's leadership during the sudden departure of OPHA's ED when Sue stepped in or should I say stepped up to take on both this operational role while also working full time at THP.

Sue also led the board through the creation of a new strategic plan – one that has stood the test of time as it still guides OPHA today. She shared her insights with countless new professionals and students through OPHA's webinars, networking soirees and other training events.

Along with this significant leadership role at OPHA, Sue also led the planning, delivery and evaluation of TPH's various Reproductive Health and Child Health programs, one of their largest divisions. These services ranged from:

- Healthy Babies Healthy Children program,
- Maternal Infant services
- Early Years services; and
- the Healthy Families/Healthy Living Quality Assurance program.

Sue also made a significant contribution to the practice of public health by co-chairing the creation of the Ontario Public Health Standards Child Health Guidance Document, a tool widely used by public health practitioners across the province to this day.

Sue also freely shared her expertise and passion for healthy child development by serving as a member of Public Health Ontario's Healthy Human Development Table, the Toronto Children's Aid Society Board of Directors and Toronto's Best Start Network. We're especially pleased that you have agreed to continue to share your expertise by serving as volunteer with OPHA.

Sue we want to honour and thank you for your outstanding contributions to OPHA and to the public health sector in Ontario by bestowing you with OPHA's Legacy Award.

Community Partner Award

OPHA is pleased to announce that the **YWCA Peterborough Haliburton** is the recipient of the OPHA Award for Community Partner. Joelle Favreau, acting as Community Development Supervisor at the YWCA in Peterborough Haliburton has been integral to the strong partnership between the YMCA and Peterborough Public Health. This collaboration has resulted in several important health initiatives. The Peterborough Food Action Network, for example, includes over 80 community organizations and members across various fields who are invested in the promotion of affordable healthy food and addressing food scarcity. In addition, Nourish Peterborough aims to create food hubs across the County and within Indigenous communities, offering programming around food literacy and access to healthy food. Nourish also hosts the Basic Income Peterborough website and supports a speaker series that garners support for a Basic Income Guarantee.

Joelle has been deeply involved in these initiatives and her dedication to and the support and commitment from the YWCA is impressive. Joelle's ability to act as a strong advocate, project manager, educator and community capacity-builder, and so much more has been fundamental to the success of these partnered programs. We also appreciate the YWCA's support for Joelle's significant contributions as an advisory committee member to the Collaborative Leadership in Practice project we've been undertaking with Health Nexus.

We are delighted to recognize Joelle and the YMCA of Peterborough's dedication to creating a healthy community and healthy Ontario; their hard work in tackling food security and health equity is outstanding.

Felicitations (fee-lee-ce-tas-son) Joelle!

Dr. Sheela Basrur Award

Jillian Fenik is currently enrolled in the Master of Health Management program through McMaster University. Jillian has enrolled in graduate education to enhance her public health practice which is founded in 18 years at the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit in public health nursing and formal leadership positions. The Master of Health Management program is enabling Jillian to apply new knowledge specific to health policy, leadership and change management, finance and evidence informed decision making. Within her role as Manager Communicable Disease, Jillian has leveraged the information accrued from the master's program to lead her team successfully through restructuring transitions at both the team and agency level. Aside from team transitions, Jillian has led several initiatives at the health unit including all elements of Positive Spaces which was rolled out agency wide 2012-2014. Jillian was also the lead of the Men Having Sex with Men (MSM) social media project which was focused on connecting and educating vulnerable high-risk populations to sexual health services and education. It was Jillian's dedication to partnership building that resulted in the local AIDS service



organization initiating and funding the MSM social media project. The MSM project received the Judges Award for Innovation from Canada Health Info Way in 2014.