

2021-2022 Annual Report

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



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INTRODUCTION

As a membership-based, charitable organization, individual members and members of constituent societies have looked to OPHA as a vehicle to advocate for healthy public policy to achieve our vision of optimal health for all.

This year more than ever, community and public health professionals have faced new and increased challenges while responding to the COVID-19 pandemic to keep populations healthy and safe. OPHA values championing the voices of those who are active in public and community health through broad engagement and a variety of channels. This year our members convened around what will be needed in the rebuilding efforts post-pandemic and the emphasis was clear on the need to prioritize upstream approaches and health equity by investing in health promotion and prevention strategies.

OPHA provides opportunities for advocacy, workgroup and member engagement, professional/leadership development, knowledge exchange, capacity building and networking. OPHA's strength and impact come from our Board of Directors, members, constituent societies, partners, volunteers and staff team, and we thank them for their commitment over the 2021-22 year.

OUR MISSION & VISION

Mission

OPHA's mission 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.

Vision

Working together to achieve optimal health for all.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Lisa Demaline
Vice President: Kevin Churchill
Past President: Karen Ellis-Scharfenberg
Secretary: Julia Roitenberg
Treasurer: Larry Stinson

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Helen Doyle
Dr. Hammad Raza Durrani
Joanne Enders
Elena Hasheminejad
Anthony Lombardo
Jacob Shelley

CONSTITUENT SOCIETIES

Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario: Alison Rothwell

Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario: Sandy Stevens

Alliance for Healthier Communities: Mariette Sutherland

Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (Ontario Region): Lisa Fortuna

Health Promotion Ontario: Angela Andrews

Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry: Michael Solanki

Ontario Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders: Fiona Kelly

Ontario Dietitians in Public Health: Andrea Licursi

Ontario Society of Physical Activity Promoters in Public Health: Lisa Kaldeway

Registered Nurses of Ontario – Community Health Nursing Initiatives Group: Kerrienne Thompson



ADVOCACY

Despite the pressures from COVID-19, our workgroups, board and staff team have been advocating for change on a number of fronts. Over the last year, we worked together to gain media exposure, release reports and statements, meet with officials, and prepare various submissions to the provincial and federal government. We wrote and contributed to 13 letters and submissions in 2021-22 on topics including:

- Built environment
- Climate change and health
- Paid sick leave
- School nutrition
- Alcohol policy changes
- Poverty reduction
- Vaccination reporting
- Truth & reconciliation
- Public health funding and structure
- Conservation authorities and land use planning
- Cannabis flavouring
- Contributed to 4 coalitions/alliances
- Attended roundtables with MPP Kramp & Minister Lecce, OMAFRA
- Presented to Health Canada's issues management group on alcohol and advertising

OPHA WORKGROUPS

7 workgroups and taskgroups remained active for members to engage on a variety of focused issues of importance to the public's health, including:

- Alcohol
- Anti-racism
- Built environment
- Environmental health
- Health equity
- Reproductive health
- New professionals networking

TRAINING & EVENTS

Building on OPHA's history of strengthening public health practice, we offered 16 live webinars to over 1,130 participants from OPHA and Nutrition Connections. We also offered certificate programs including a COVID-19 Vaccine Education online course that issued more than 500 certificates of completion. We continued to pivot into an online space to offer a menu of training opportunities despite ongoing in-person restrictions. Through partnership and through the development of new e-learning courses, we offered:

- Lean Sigma training with the Leading Edge Group
- Online course for international medical graduates with the Learning Enrichment Foundation
- Motivational interviewing certificate
- Online course - Food and Body Talk: The Power of Language to Shape Children's Mental Health
- Online course on COVID-19 Vaccine Education
- Nutrition Connections has partnered with Ellyn Satter Institute to further expand the Satter eating and feeding models in Canada

SPECIAL PROJECTS & COMMUNICATIONS



OPHA participated in various new initiatives to advance public health in Ontario, including:

- The development of the **What We Heard** report. In this report we aimed to capture the perspectives of public and community health professionals across the province in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OPHA provided timely information and updates on public health to help our members and the public health community stay informed through:

- Bi-weekly eBulletins on public health news, research and events
- Daily COVID-19 summaries of key federal and provincial developments
- E-blasts and summaries from our Executive Director and staff team on important public health news
- Updated resources for the nutrition community on prenatal and infant feeding

OPHA MAKING HEADLINES

- Health sector asks for Ontario budget investments beyond hospitals (Global News, March 13 2022)
- Pandemic recovery plans must address gaps in reproductive health (London Free Press, Mar 9 2022)
- Exposed: The undue challenges student mothers face on campus (The Charlatan, Feb 7 2022)
- Sudbury's health unit denounces all 'acts and symbols of hate' in trucker convoy protest (Toronto Star, Feb 18 2022)
- COVID-19: What you need to know for February 18 (TVO, Feb 18 2022)
- Population health versus convenience: The sobering cost of alcohol policy liberalization (Toronto Star, Nov 17 2021)
- Opinion | Climate change the new public health emergency (Hamilton Spectator, Jul 2021)
- The OPHA Calls for a New Prescription for Better Health - Health Insight (Healthinsight.ca, June 2021)
- Opinion | Food insecurity: a preventable public health crisis (Hamilton Spectator, Mar 2021)
- AD: Save it don't pave it (Toronto Star, Dec 12 2022) –signed with over 100 organizations!
- ADVERTORIAL: Nutrition Connections: Families and Food (Global Heroes Magazine, May 2021) –received over 6,000 engagements and 'likes' and likes on social media!

FINANCIAL REPORT

As an organization that does not receive any government funding, membership fees are critical as well as securing other funding sources. Last year, we generated revenue from:

- Training and events
- OPHA memberships
- Job ads in public health
- Project grants
- Contracts and consulting services
- And the sale of nutrition resources and Nutrition Connection subscription revenues.

ONTARIO PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	<i>Year ended March 31</i>	
	2022	2021
	\$	\$
REVENUES		
Core (Schedule 1)	215,963	204,513
Project (Note 10)	108,800	362,385
	324,763	566,898
EXPENDITURES		
Core (Schedule 1- including amortization)	769,045	619,862
Project (Note 10)	108,800	362,385
	877,845	982,247
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES FROM OPERATIONS	(553,082)	(415,349)
OTHER INCOME		
Government assistance (Note 2)	231,808	393,538
DEFICIENCY OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(321,274)	(21,811)

OPHA TEAM 2021-22

Pegeen Walsh, Executive Director

Melanie Sanderson, Director of Programs and Services

Sandy Maxwell, Senior Policy and Program Strategist

Erin Colburn, Project Officer

Casidhe Gardiner, Policy and Program Officer

Marissa Lustri, Policy and Program Officer

Deborah Nurse, Manager, Finance & Administration

Rohan Russell, Financial & Operational Assistant

Faduma Jama, Research Assistant

PARTNERS & CONSTITUENT SOCIETIES

Thank you for your support, we couldn't have done it without you!



CANADIAN
PUBLIC HEALTH
ASSOCIATION



Alliance for Healthier Communities
Alliance pour des communautés en santé



HEALTH
PROMOTION
ONTARIO



PROMOTION
DE LA SANTÉ
ONTARIO



Ontario Dietitians in Public Health
Diététistes en santé publique de l'Ontario



OPHNL
Leading the Way for Public Health Nursing



alPHa
Association of Local
PUBLIC HEALTH
Agencies



OCDPA
Ontario Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance



CHASE
CANADIAN HEALTH ASSOCIATION
FOR SUSTAINABILITY & EQUITY

canadian partnership for
children's
health & environment
partenariat canadien pour la santé
des enfants
et l'environnement



THE COALITION
FOR HEALTHY SCHOOL FOOD



EcoHealth
ONTARIO