

# 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

#### **Ontario Public Health Association**

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### WELCOME MESSAGE

OPHA seeks to be an independent voice on issues of importance to the public's health. Created in 1949, the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) is a non-partisan, non-profit organization. OPHA's members come from various backgrounds and sectors – from the various disciplines in public health, health care, academic, non-profit to the private sector. They are united by OPHA's mission of providing leadership and strengthening the impact of people who are active in community and public health throughout Ontario. This mission is achieved through professional development, information and analysis on issues effecting community and public health, access to multidisciplinary networks, advocacy on health public policy and the provision of expertise and consultation.

The 2022-23 year was a year focused on strengthening and rebuilding our community and public health systems. OPHA was proud to have had a role in amplifying those efforts through opportunities for advocacy, workgroup and member engagement, professional/leadership development, knowledge exchange, capacity building and networking.

# 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.

OPHA achieves this mission by:

- providing professional development opportunities and up-to-date information in community and public health issues
- providing access and convening local, provincial and multi-disciplinary community health networks
- developing mechanisms to identify and analyze public health issues from the variety of perspectives among its membership and broader communities
- creating and maintaining advocacy initiatives with a province-wide perspective
- leading the development of expertise in public and community health through collaboration, consultation and partnerships

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2022-23

**President:** Lisa Demaline **President Elect:** Kevin Churchill **Past President:** Lisa Demaline **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**

**Alliance for Healthier Communities:** Kirsten Woodend

Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario:

Danielle Hachborn

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

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

Health Promotion Ontario:

Stephanie Tea

**Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry:** Michael Solanki

**Ontario Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders:** David Groulx

**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:** Pam Stuckless

### HEALTH POLICY

OPHA was very active on the advocacy front last year. We started the year by shaping our advocacy priorities and creating our top 5 asks for leaders to consider as part of their election platforms. We highlighted the lack of attention that community and public health was getting during the Ontario 2022 election and called attention to a strained public health system in the media.

In the 2022/23 fiscal year, OPHA submitted 37 letters and submissions in response to opportunities for influence. Our workgroups were active as the engine driving our advocacy around a variety of issues from health equity, to alcohol, to reproductive health, to the built environment, to environmental health.

Advocacy files pertaining to the built environment and environmental health were pressing this year as a number of proposed changes warranted responses and submissions.

Tobacco control was another area where OPHA leveraged opportunities for influence.



OPHA calls on all political parties to strengthen and rebuild our public and community health systems for the health and well-

We are experiencing the worst public health crisis in more than a century, impacting the lives, health, and well-being of our population. As public health and community health professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of Ortarians, we urge all political parties to commit to increasing investments in the public health system that protects and promotes the health of our communities, supports the realiency of the public health and community health workforce, and enables the autonomy and ability for public health leaders to address local and regional needs.

being of all Ontarians.

Further, we call on all parties to commit to policies and strategies that prevent chronic disease, advance racial and health equity and address climate change and its impacts on health and well-being.



THE ONTARIO PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION'S TOP ELECTION PRIORITIES TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE PUBLIC HEALTH IN ONTARIO ARE:

 Strengthen public health and community health by increasing and sustaining funding, while enabling local

- and regional autonomy 2.Restore and strengthen the public
- health workforce 3.Advance racial and health equity
- 4. Take bold actions to address climate change
- 5. Develop and implement a comprehensive chronic disease prevention strategy

April 2022 | www.opha.on.ca

# CAPACITY BUILDING

OPHA enjoyed the milestone of returning to our tradition of hosting our annual conference, only this year was the first time we did so entirely online. In fact, we hosted not one but two online conferences! Thank you to the several hundred participants that joined us as we got back to the annual tradition of our fall forum, and hosted for the first time a National conference on tobacco and vaping in collaboration with CPHA.





### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

OPHA brings together people and organizations from different backgrounds from the various public health disciplines, different parts of the province as well as other sectors - the voluntary, academic, health care and private sector.

in 2022 we made some updates to our membership system to reduce the barriers for entry into membership. We are pleased that not only do we continue to offer differential pricing for eligible groups, but we also put monthly payment plans in place so that new members could get started right away with less upfront costs.

#### **WHO ARE OPHA MEMBERS?** Coordinator Dietitian Director Epidemiologist Health Promoter Manager Medical Doctor Policy Analyst

Student

Public Health Nurse

- Researcher/ Academic Specialist
- Other
- Public Health Inspector

Ontario Public Health Association Association pour la santé publique de l'Ontario



### 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 memberships, training and events, project grants, and sponsorship. Memberships Training & events Project Grants Sponsorship

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2023

	2023	2022
REVENUE		
CORE		
Membership \$	45,385 \$	56,997
Sundry	46,056	29,644
Consulting	50,594	46,611
Conference	338,558	82,711
PROJECT (NOTE 9)	73,483	108,800
GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE (NOTE 5)	5,890	231,808
	559,966	556,571
EXPENSE		
CORE		
Amortization	2,796	7,174
Bank charges and interest	5,694	7,119
Benefits	75,269	74,736
Board expense	3,785	3,767
Conference and PD events	85,266	29,421
Equipment and internet	65,839	48,333
External membership fees	650	823
Insurance	4,514	5,598
Membership materials, mailings and campaign	-	145
Office supplies and administration	12,500	10,782
Outside services	2,128	38,796
Postage	538	1,558
Professional fees	20,813	20,452
Rent	4,457	6,001
Salaries and vacation	411,739	505,855
Staff travel, recruiting and training	2,434	4,784
Telephone	4,889	7,801
Recovery of expenses from projects	(6,052)	(4,100)
PROJECT (NOTE 9)	73,483	108,800
	770,742	877,845
NET REVENUE (EXPENSE) FOR THE YEAR \$	(210,776) \$	(321,274)

### THANK YOU



Through their involvement in OPHA's workgroups, networks and constituent societies, OPHA members have been leading change on a wide range of issues – tobacco control, poverty reduction, diabetes prevention, increased access to oral health care, immunization, supporting children and families, food security, healthy eating and nutrition, climate change and designing walkable communities, among others.

We are grateful for the support of our the support of our members, constituent societies and partners.



#### The OPHA TEAM 2022-23

John Atkinson, 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 Sarah Pedder, Policy and Program Officer Marissa Lustri, Policy and Program Officer