

2002 alPHa RESOLUTION A02 - 10

TITLE: Aboriginal Public Health in Ontario

SPONSOR: Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health of alPHa

WHEREAS Recent correspondence from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care clearly indicates that Ontario Board's of Health are fully responsible to deliver all aspects of the Health Protection and Promotion Act and its regulations, including the Mandatory Programs and Services Guidelines; and

WHEREAS a draft review of the Ontario Public Health Infrastructure Available to Aboriginal Peoples by the Public Health Branch indicates many areas of confusion and uncertainty in regards to jurisdictional authority and responsibility in most program, service and legal roles of Ontario's municipal public health system on First Nation Reserves; and

WHEREAS there has been no formal consultation between all parties involved, including First Nations, Treaty Organizations, Federal Government, Provincial Government, Municipal Government and Boards of Health;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) strongly recommends and urgently requests that a comprehensive review and consultation process, to include First Nations representatives, senior federal and provincial health ministry representatives, municipal government representatives, alPHa and Boards of Health representatives, be initiated by the provincial and federal government for the purpose of:

- 1) Clearly determining an Aboriginal Public Health system in and for Ontario First Nation citizens;
- 2) Developing, resourcing and staffing an Aboriginal Public Health Resource centre;
- 3) Establishing methods of funding, reporting and evaluating such systems so as to guarantee the equitable and quality delivery of all aspects of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* and its Regulations to all First Nation citizens of Ontario while maintaining fiduciary responsibility of the Federal government in accordance with the Canadian Constitution (British North American Act) and Treaty rights of First Nation Citizens.

Action from Conference:

Moved: D. Williams (Thunder Bay)
Seconded: I. Parkes (Northwestern)

Carried