

ALPHA RESOLUTION A08-5

TITLE: Advocacy for Enactment of a 0% Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) Limit on Drivers Until They Reach the Age Of 21 Years

SPONSOR: Middlesex-London Board of Health

WHEREAS There is strong evidence, primarily from the United States, that a higher minimum drinking age significantly reduces alcohol consumption and related motor vehicle collisions among both the 19 to 21 year age group as well as younger teenagers; and

WHEREAS Public health units/departments have a direct mandate in several key areas related to the use of alcohol and other drugs; and

WHEREAS A comprehensive review of 241 studies published between 1960 and 1999 found that the minimum drinking age of 21 years of age has been the most successful strategy to reduce teenage drinking as well as reduce youth traffic crashes; and

WHEREAS MADD Canada is of the view that, to reduce youth traffic crashes, the drinking age should be either 21 years of age or at a minimum 19 years of age while enacting a 0% Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limit on drivers until they reach the age of 21 years;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Local Public Health Agencies petition the Ontario government to enact a 0% Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limit on drivers until they reach the age of 21 years.

ACTION FROM CONFERENCE:

Moved: D. McKeown (Toronto)
Seconded: R. Pellizzari (Peterborough)

Resolution CARRIED AS AMENDED