



**Boards of Health Section Meeting  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023  
9 am to noon**

BOH Section Chair: Carmen McGregor

**Final Agenda**

Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium, Room 610, 155 College St., Toronto, ON M5T 3M7  
*All times are Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)*

*A light breakfast will be available starting at 8:30 am.*

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- 9:00 am **Call to Order**  
**Land Acknowledgement**  
**Welcoming Remarks**  
**Introductions**  
Speaker: Carmen McGregor, Chair, BOH Section
- 9:05 am **Public Health and the Political Landscape**  
Updates will be provided by StrategyCorp on the current public policy climate and key political issues. Insights will be provided on what the implications might be for public health agencies and their local boards of health.  
  
Speakers: Sabine Matheson, Principal, StrategyCorp and Aidan Grove-White, Vice-President, StrategyCorp.  
Moderator: Carmen McGregor, Chair, BOH Section
- 9:45 am **Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Update**  
AMO works with Ontario's 444 municipalities to make municipal governments stronger and more effective. Come and hear the latest from AMO with regards to public health issues, including homelessness, from a municipal perspective with a focus on their recent work.  
  
Speakers: Lindsay Jones, Director of Policy, AMO, Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, AMO, and Daniela Spagnuolo, Policy Advisor, AMO  
Moderator: Trudy Sachowski, President, ALPHA
- 10:15 am **Workplace Health and Wellness**  
Franger Jimenez, who recently helped to launch ALPHA's Workplace Health and Wellness Month and developed products for ALPHA members, will briefly highlight resources available for members to help maintain mental and physical health.

- 10:20 am      **Networking Break (*Refreshments provided*)**
- 10:50 am      **Exploring the Intersection of Primary Care and Public Health**  
 Dr. Lawrence Loh, former Medical Officer of Health for the Region of Peel and now the Executive Director and CEO, College of Family Physicians of Canada, will discuss the important intersection between local public health and primary care.
- Speaker: Dr. Lawrence Loh, Executive Director and CEO, College of Family Physicians of Canada  
 Moderator: Steven Rebellato, Affiliate Representative, alPHa
- 11:20 am      **alPHa Update / Section Business/ BOH Elections**  
 Speakers: Carmen McGregor, BOH Section Chair, alPHa, and Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa
- Approval of Minutes from February 24, 2023, BOH Section Meeting.

**Section meeting ends at noon.**

*Co-hosted by alPHa and Toronto Public Health, with generous support from the University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health and the Temerty Faculty of Medicine.*



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**DRAFT MINUTES**  
**Boards of Health Section Meeting**  
**Friday, February 24, 2023 – 1:30 – 4:30 pm**  
*Chair: Carmen McGregor*

**1.0 Land Acknowledgement/Welcoming Remarks/Introductions**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and provided welcoming remarks and introductions.

**1.1 Land Acknowledgement**

The Land Acknowledgement was read by the Chair.

**1.2 Section Business**

The minutes from the previous BOH Section Meeting on June 14, 2022 were approved as written and presented.

**2.0 Public Health Overview, BOH Orientation, and Section Business**

BOH members were given a further understanding of the importance of local public health, their roles as Board of Health members, and how alPHa works with Boards of Health to profile and advance public health issues through presentations by Alexander Summers, Board Member, alPHa, and Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa. Franger Jimenez, Student, Centennial College provided information on workplace health and wellness.

A. Summers provided BOH members with an overview of public health. His presentation included a short history of diseases, the determinants of health, and health inequities. He also explained what public health does and its principles. Lastly, A. Summers provided information on public health, how local public health units are structured, and the responsibilities of a board of health.

L. Ryan gave the BOH Section an overview of alPHa as an association. She provided information on the work the association does, the structure of the board of directors, its staff, and the association's main functions. She also gave an overview of key alPHa resources for members to use at the local level. Lastly, L. Ryan commended BOH members for their hard work.

F. Jimenez presented wellness solutions BOH members can use to improve their overall health and well-being. He also stated alPHa is creating a resource library that public health units can use for workplace health and wellness. F. Jimenez provided BOH members with practical mental health tips that included time management, getting the right amount of sleep, connecting with friends and family, etc. Finally, he announced the alPHa Fitness Challenge is being rebranded as the alPHa Workplace Health & Wellness Month and encouraged all BOH members to take part and share their photos on Twitter.

The Q & A session was facilitated by the moderator, T. Sachowski.

### **3.0 ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES OF ONTARIO (AMO) UPDATE**

T. Sachowski introduced Lindsay Jones, Director of Policy, and Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, Social and Health Policy of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). They spoke about public health issues from a municipal perspective. Remarks included the impact of COVID-19, a new mandate, a new provincial-municipal relationship with the Ford government, and a fiscal context. They also discussed their current priorities including health human resources, homelessness, housing and health, mental health, and addictions, etc.

AMO representatives spoke about ramping up their advocacy for housing and homelessness. It was stated municipalities need support and AMO is trying to work with the provincial government on creating an implementation plan. Additionally, AMO is calling on the provincial government to acknowledge that homelessness is occurring, to end the issue, work with their partners to find solutions and then take action.

M. Jacek discussed current policy work that aligns with public health. He stated this usually focuses on the broader community interest. This includes access to health care and public health services, which is an issue across the province. For example, AMO has been calling on the government to develop a health human resources strategy, which is desperately needed across the entire health care sector. Other issues pertaining to mental health and addictions, paramedicine and home care, Ontario Health Teams, and public health transformation and funding were also discussed.

Daniela Spagnuolo of AMO moderated questions from the audience. T. Sachowski thanked L. Jones, M. Jacek, and D. Spagnuolo for presenting and moderating the session.

### **4.0 Board of Health Liability – Orientation for New Board of Health Members**

Speakers James LeNoury, Principal, LeNoury Law (alPHA's Legal Counsel), and Monika Turner, Principal, Roving Capacity, gave an overview to Board of Health members about the liabilities of boards of health and board of health members while carrying out their duties under the Health Protection and Promotion Act. This included statutory liability through the Ontario Corporations Act and the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, the Human Rights Code, etc. Ministry expectations, BOH requirements, specific public health liabilities, and board governance were also discussed. BOH members were encouraged to use the BOH Orientation Manual and the BOH Governance Toolkit, which are on the alPHA website. Lastly, they spoke about BOH responsibilities, the Governance Policy Framework, legislative requirements, and financial administration and oversight.

The Q & A session was facilitated by the moderator, M. Turner.

#### **Other Business**

T. Sachowski thanked C. McGregor for chairing the meeting. P. Roumeliotis, J. Chisholm, and A. Morrison from the Eastern Ontario Health Unit and O. George from the Dalla Lana School of Public Health were thanked for their technical support and expertise. Staff members L. Ryan, G. Fleming, and M. Dziengo were thanked for their work. BOH Members were thanked for their dedication to local public health and all they have done as part of the COVID-19 response. It was also noted the next alPHA event is the AGM and Conference. It will take place June 12-14, 2023.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was issued at 4:24 p.m.