

InfoBreak

alPHA's members' portal



Sept.- Oct. 2026



Key Highlights

- *Leader to Leader: Chair & CEO Report – Strategic Plan in Action* article from alPHA Chair, Carmen McGregor and alPHA CEO, Loretta Ryan (see below).
- alPHA's 2026 *Leadership Series: Navigating Change*.
- Ontario Municipal Election Resources

Leader to Leader: Chair & CEO Report – Strategic Plan in Action

As we begin the 2026–2027 term, we are very pleased to introduce a new joint format for the Chair and CEO Report. Beginning with this report, we will be sharing these updates together, reflecting the shared leadership of the Chair and Chief Executive Officer and the collaborative approach that guides our work at alPHA rather than in separate updates. This approach is consistent with the joint leadership reflected in alPHA's Annual Report and other key organizational communications.

This summer provided a strong start for the new term of the Board of Directors. We want to share an update on some of this work, including our response to the Province's public health funding announcement, follow-up on the Ontario Public Health Standards, correspondence on alPHA's 2026 Resolutions, support for Boards of Health as we approach the municipal election, continued work with our provincial and health-system partners, a very productive few days at the AMO Conference in Ottawa, and the work already underway as we look ahead to the fall and alPHA's Leadership Series: Navigating Change that is taking place online from November 3 to 6, 2026.

This update is a tool to keep alPHA's Members apprised of the latest news in public health including provincial announcements, legislation, alPHA activities, correspondence, and events. Visit us at alphaweb.org.

Public Health Funding

As you will have seen in [alPHA's response to the Minister of Health](#), we acknowledged the extension of the one per cent annual increase in provincial base funding for a further year, while making clear that this level of funding is not sufficient to sustain the current scope of provincially mandated public health programs and services. We urged the Province to move toward a more adequate and predictable multi-year funding approach that reflects the actual costs of delivering Ontario's public health mandate. This remains an important priority for alPHA, and we will continue to engage with the Ministry as discussions around public health funding and sustainability move forward.

Ontario Public Health Standards

Correspondence was also sent to Dr. Kieran Moore regarding the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) Working Drafts released on July 22. We thanked the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) for the Working Drafts and the commitment to providing training on the revised Standards, while reinforcing the importance of making this training available to public health staff as soon as possible this fall. With the revised Standards anticipated to take effect on January 1, 2027, access to training will give local public health agencies greater clarity and confidence as they begin their implementation planning.

The letter also strongly encouraged OCMOH to provide training for members of Boards of Health in early 2027. The revised Standards represent significant changes, and Board members will need to understand the new and revised requirements, including their governance responsibilities in relation to the Standards. This will be particularly important for members beginning new terms in January and February 2027. alPHA has offered to assist OCMOH in delivering sessions to its members and looks forward to working collaboratively on this important transition.

2026 Resolutions

Following the adoption of alPHA's 2026 Resolutions, correspondence has now been sent to the appropriate decision-makers on four important issues: Hepatitis B vaccination in the first year of life, strengthening certified Public Health Inspector capacity, mandatory and regulated alcohol labelling, and enhancing the Ontario Works benefit. These Resolutions are part of the breadth of issues addressed by local public health and demonstrate alPHA's role in bringing the collective priorities of its members forward to decision-makers.

Supporting Boards of Health

With the 2026 municipal election approaching, alPHA has prepared a resource to help Boards of Health plan for the transition between current municipal appointments and the appointment of new representatives. The Governance Continuity & Fiduciary Obligations During Municipal Election Transition briefing note outlines key governance considerations and includes a sample resolution that Boards may adapt, in consultation with legal counsel, should quorum be temporarily unavailable following the election. We encourage Boards of Health to review this resource and consider whether additional planning is appropriate for their local circumstances.

alPHa is also currently overhauling the Boards of Health Orientation Manual and Governance Toolkit, along with introducing new resources in anticipation of the new Boards of Health. These will be available in the coming weeks and well in advance of the new Boards of Health being in place.

Government Relations Lunch & Learn

In advance of the AMO Conference, alPHa hosted a Boards of Health Section Lunch & Learn, “Making the Most of Your Interactions with Provincial Decision-Makers,” on July 23.

The session brought together Sabine Matheson and John Perenack of StrategyCorp with Loretta Ryan, alPHa’s Chief Executive Officer, for an interactive discussion on preparing for delegation meetings, communicating key messages, and building effective relationships with provincial decision-makers. The session provided practical guidance to help Boards of Health and alPHa members make the most of their meetings and engagement opportunities. Thank you to the many members that participated.

AMO Conference

The AMO Conference in Ottawa provided an important opportunity for alPHa members to connect with provincial and municipal decision makers. Thank you to the many Board members who attended and participated in successful delegations, advancing local public health priorities and ensuring our perspectives were heard.

alPHa sent a letter welcoming AMO’s new President, Riley Brockington, and we spoke with him at the conference. We look forward to continuing strong relationships with AMO and our municipal and provincial partners.

We also want to note that Loretta Ryan, Trudy Sachowski, and Jim Pine, Special Advisor, met during the conference for a discussion about Jim’s work over the past year. Jim expressed his appreciation for the support, encouragement and advice provided by alPHa. It was a valuable opportunity to reflect on the important relationships that have continued to grow.

Ontario Medical Association

At the AMO Conference, alPHa was pleased that we were able to arrange a meeting with the Ontario Medical Association (OMA). It was a privilege to meet with Dr. Rebecca Hicks, Craig DuHamel, Matt Ostergard, and Bianca Turchiaro for a thoughtful and productive discussion about the shared priorities of public health physicians and local public health.

Representing alPHa were Carmen McGregor, alPHa Chair; Dr. Trevor Arnason, COMOH Section Chair; Trudy Sachowski, Treasurer; and Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer. We welcomed the opportunity to discuss areas of alignment and mutual support, and to identify potential areas for collaboration. Loretta has followed up with OMA staff to continue the dialogue.

Health-System Partners

We have also continued to reinforce alPHa’s supporting role in wildfire preparedness and response, including through our recent [letter to Ontario Health](#) regarding the supporting role of local public health in communicating with communities during wildfire smoke events.

Follow-Up and Ongoing Work

We are continuing to develop the next Public Health Matters infographic, which will focus on “Working Behind the Scenes to Protect Communities.” This sixth infographic in the series is designed to strengthen understanding of the breadth and value of the work carried out every day by local public health agencies, much of which happens behind the scenes and may not be recognized until an emergency occurs. This builds upon the most recent infographic that focused on return on investment (ROI) and will illustrate the many ways local public health protects families, prevents disease, keeps environments healthy, supports mental well-being, responds to emergencies and helps create safe communities. It is being developed as a foundational communications resource for use with government and municipal leaders, alPHA members, health-system and community partners, and the public. The goal is to provide a clear and accessible picture of the breadth of local public health, much of which is not widely known, and the value it brings to communities across Ontario at a time when many new board of health members will be commencing their terms and need concise information.

Looking Ahead

We are also looking ahead to alPHA’s Leadership Series: Navigating Change, taking place online November 3–6. The series will provide public health leaders with opportunities for practical learning, discussion and connection around some of the challenges facing local public health. It is another important way alPHA supports leadership development and capacity building across the sector. I am very pleased to note that Peel Public Health is co-hosting this event, and we have support from the Dalla Lana School of Public Health and Eastern Ontario Health Unit. Stay tuned for further information!

Strategic Plan in Action

Taken together, this work provides a number of concrete examples of the [2024–2027 Strategic Plan](#) in action. Our response to the provincial funding announcement and our work on the OPHS demonstrate alPHA’s role as a unified voice and trusted advisor on public health, ensuring that the perspectives and needs of local public health agencies are clearly communicated to government. Our work on the 2026 resolutions further demonstrates this role by bringing the collective priorities adopted by our members forward to decision-makers. Our work with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, AMO, OMA and others reflects our commitment to strengthening relationships and working through strategic partnerships and collaborations. The municipal election resource supports our commitment to providing services and resources that strengthen the capacity of Boards of Health. The Leadership Series and the Public Health Matters infographic also support our commitment to delivering services, building capacity and communicating the value of local public health. These are just some of the many activities that help ensure that alPHA’s voice is at the table, that the value of local public health is understood by government and key partners, and that our members have opportunities to build relationships, share information and strengthen their capacity to navigate change.

This summer has been a strong reminder of the value of our collective voice and of the importance of the relationships we continue to build with government, municipalities, health-system partners and other organizations. We are looking forward to the year ahead and to working with our Board, members and staff as we continue to strengthen the voice and impact of local public health across Ontario. Thank you again to everyone who has participated and represented alPHA so well. We are grateful for the commitment by our Members and the leadership demonstrated by our Board of Directors.



Carmen McGregor
Chair, alPHA



Loretta Ryan
Chief Executive Officer, alPHA



alPHA Correspondence

Through policy analysis, and collaboration, alPHA's Members and staff act to promote public health policies that form a strong foundation for the improvement of health promotion and protection, disease prevention, and surveillance services in all of Ontario's communities. A complete online library of submissions is available [here](#). These documents are publicly available and can be shared widely.

- [alPHA Letter - OPHS Training](#)
- [alPHA Letter - OMA President](#)
- [alPHA Letter - AMO President](#)
- [alPHA Letter - Provincial Public Health Funding](#)
- [alPHA Letter - Ontario Health Wildfire Resource](#)



Public health is experiencing significant change, with new expectations, emerging technologies, increasing complexity, and ongoing pressures on the sector. These changes are challenging leaders to think differently, communicate effectively and lead with confidence. The skills that have served public health leaders well in the past are not necessarily the skills that will be needed to lead successfully into the future.

The alPHA Leadership Series: Navigating Change brings together four half-day sessions designed to strengthen the practical leadership skills needed to navigate change, inspire and influence others, communicate with confidence, champion improvement and lead strategically in an evolving public health environment.

Sessions will explore: ***Yours, Mine & Ours: Leading Together, Fostering Strong Board and Staff Relationships***, Meredith Low, Principal, Meredith Low Consulting; ***The Power of Healthy Tension: How to Navigate Complexity and Chronic Leadership Challenges*** with Claudia Valle Associate, Leaders for Leaders; ***The Leadership Journey: People, Connection and What Really Matters***: Join in on a conversation with Peter Bombaci, Founder & CEO, GenWell, about the lessons, challenges, and insights that shape great leadership, and why people, connection, and well-being matter so much along the way; ***Government Relations for Leaders***: Effective leaders understand how to build relationships, navigate government, and communicate strategically with decision-makers. This session with Sabine Matheson, Principal, StrategyCorp, will provide practical insights into government relations and the role leaders play in building effective relationships and advancing organizational priorities; ***Media Relations for Leaders***: Leaders are often the public face of their organization, making the ability to communicate effectively with the media an essential leadership skill. This session with John Perenack, Principal, StrategyCorp, will provide practical media training, including how to deliver clear messages, handle challenging questions, and communicate with confidence under pressure, and ***The Role of Public Health Leaders in Quality Improvement: From Championing Change to Accountability for Success*** with Public Health Ontario.

Whether you are leading a team, an organization, a change initiative or communicating publicly on behalf of local public health, this series will provide practical tools, perspectives and strategies that leaders can apply. Join colleagues from across Ontario for four engaging afternoons focused on building the confidence, capability and leadership skills needed to navigate change and lead public health forward.

Designed with the realities of local public health budgets and competing demands in mind, the series also offers exceptional value. It is an accessible and cost-effective opportunity to invest in leadership capacity, with content specifically designed for the challenges facing local public health today.

[Registration is now open.](#) Additional information about the sessions, speakers and program will be available on October 6. Individuals attending the Leadership Series must register separately, as registration cannot be shared between participants. This approach ensures that registration is fair and consistent for all participants and allows us to appropriately manage access to the sessions and associated materials. Participants do not need to attend all sessions, but are encouraged to do so. Register now to reserve your place!

The event would not be possible without our co-hosts, Peel Public Health, and generous support from: Leaders for Leaders, GenWell, StrategyCorp, Public Health Ontario, Meredith Low Consulting, thePersonal, Eastern Ontario Health Unit, and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health.

This event is co-hosted by alPHa and Peel Public Health



With generous support from:



Ontario Board of Health Governance Training: Plan Ahead for 2027

With municipal elections approaching in 2026, boards of health across Ontario will soon be welcoming new and returning members. Ensuring board members have a strong understanding of their governance responsibilities is essential to supporting effective public health leadership and decision-making.

To assist boards in preparing for the upcoming term, ALPHA continues to offer its Ontario Board of Health Governance Training Program, a comprehensive orientation designed specifically for board of health members. The program provides practical guidance on governance roles and responsibilities, legislative requirements, oversight of public health programs and services, and effective board practices. Interest in the program has been exceptionally strong, and we are already receiving bookings for early 2027. Boards that anticipate requiring governance training following the municipal elections are encouraged to reserve dates as early as possible to ensure availability.

Whether your board is planning a full orientation for newly appointed members or a refresher session for returning members, early planning will help secure your preferred timing and support a smooth transition into the new board term.

Additional information about the Ontario Board of Health Governance Training Program, including course details and available resources, can be found on ALPHA's Board of Health Shared Resources page: https://www.alphaweb.org/page/BOH_Shared_Resources

To discuss training options or reserve a session for your board, please contact ALPHA's Chief Executive Officer, Loretta Ryan loretta@alphaweb.org. We would be pleased to work with you to support your board's governance education needs.



New Report Shares Key Public Health Digital Transformation Learnings

Digital Transformation in Public Health

THE GOAL ISN'T TECHNOLOGY. THE GOAL IS BETTER DECISIONS, STRONGER ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE, AND IMPROVED PUBLIC HEALTH OUTCOMES.

MLHU consultations with peer public health units revealed eight key enablers of successful digital transformation:



What does successful digital transformation look like in public health? To help answer that question, the Middlesex-London Health Unit consulted with peer public health units across Ontario and has released Key Learnings for Digital Transformation in Public Health. The report highlights practical lessons from organizations at various stages of their digital journey, including the importance of governance, leadership, workforce development, interoperability, and change management. Designed to support planning and implementation efforts, this resource offers valuable insights for health units advancing data, digital, and modernization initiatives across the sector.



This update is a tool to keep ALPHA's Members apprised of the latest news in public health including provincial announcements, legislation, ALPHA activities, correspondence, and events. Visit us at alphaweb.org.

Board of Health Shared Resources

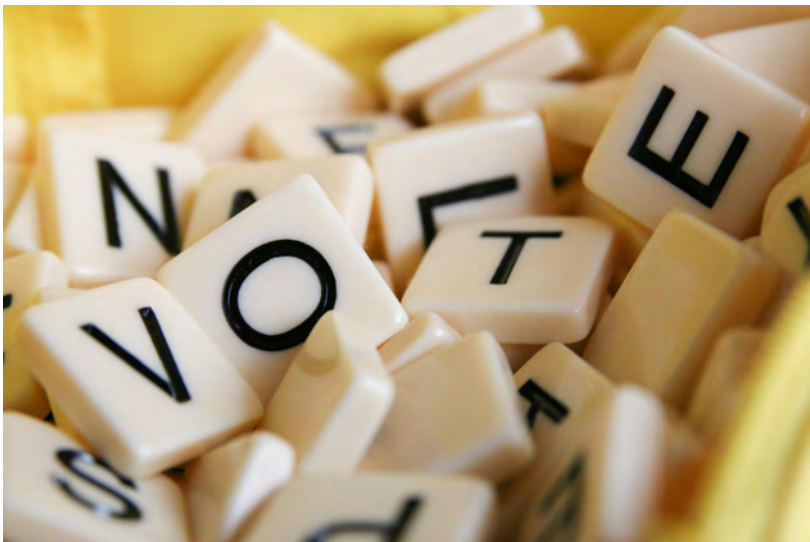
A resource page is available on alPHA's website for Board of Health members to facilitate the sharing of and access to information, orientation materials, best practices, case studies, by-laws, Resolutions, and other resources. In particular, alPHA is seeking resources to share regarding the province's *Strengthening Public Health* Initiative, including but not limited to, voluntary mergers and the need for long-term funding for local public health. If you have a best practice, by-law or any other resource that you would like to make available via the newsletter and/or the website, please send a file or a link with a brief description to gordon@alphaweb.org and for posting in the appropriate library.

Updated resources will be released soon. Meanwhile, the ones available on the alPHA website include:

- **Orientation Manual for Boards of Health (Revised version to be released soon)**
- Review of Board of Health Liability, 2018, (PowerPoint presentation, Feb. 24, 2023)
- Legal Matters: Updates for Boards of Health (Video, June 8, 2021)
- Obligations of a Board of Health under the Municipal Act, 2001 (Revised 2021)
- **Governance Toolkit (Revised version to be released soon)**
- Risk Management for Health Units
- Healthy Rural Communities Toolkit
- The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction
- The Ontario Public Health Standards
- Public Appointee Role and Governance Overview (for Provincial Appointees to BOH)
- Ontario Boards of Health by Region
- List of Units sorted by Municipality
- List of Municipalities sorted by Health Unit
- Map: Boards of Health Types NCCHP Report: Profile of Ontario's Public Health System (2021)
- The Municipal Role of Public Health (2022 U of T Report)
- Boards of Health and Ontario Not-For-Profit Corporations Act
- Core Competencies for Public Health in Canada
- BOH Training Courses



2026 Ontario municipal election resources



With the 2026 municipal election campaign in full swing, alPHa would like to highlight a number of resources that may be useful to members during the election period. Whether you are engaging with municipal candidates, participating in local conversations about public health, or looking for accessible resources to share, the following are available for your use:

Public Health Matters: Aimed at decision-makers, the Public Health Matters infographic series is a particularly useful resource during the municipal election campaign. The series provides concise and accessible information that helps to explain the role of local public health and its contribution to healthy communities and a strong Ontario. Together, the five infographics provide a broad picture of local public health, from explaining its role and demonstrating its impact, to making the case for investment and highlighting its contribution to healthy communities and a strong economy. The infographics can be shared individually, or as a collection, and are useful when communicating with municipal candidates and others during the campaign. The infographics, and associated videos, are available in English and French.

Public Health Matters Infographic	Focus
#1 A Public Health Primer	Explains what local public health is and the role it plays in protecting and promoting health.
#2 Fall Vaccine Success	Demonstrates the impact of prevention and immunization in protecting communities.
#3 A Business Case for Local Public Health	Makes the case for investment in local public health.
#4 Keeping Ontarians Healthy and Safe	Highlights how local public health protects and promotes the health and safety of communities.
#5 A Strong Economy Supported by Healthy Communities	Illustrates the connection between healthy communities and a strong economy.

2026 Ontario municipal election resources cont'd

Resolutions and Correspondence

The [alPHA Resolutions](#) and [Correspondence](#) provide a valuable source of information about the priorities, issues, and positions that have shaped alPHA's work on behalf of Ontario's local public health agencies. For Members preparing for conversations with municipal candidates, these resources offer a wealth of background information on issues that matter to local public health and the communities we serve. These can help provide context on current public health priorities, identify relevant past work, and provide additional information when questions arise during the campaign. The collection includes the alPHA submission to the [2026 Ontario Budget consultation](#), along with correspondence and Resolutions addressing a wide range of public health priorities. The Resolutions can also be searched by year and/or topic, making it easy to find information on specific issues. Members are encouraged to explore these resources as a source of background, context, and supporting information throughout the municipal election period.

alPHA Strategic Plan 2024 to 2027

The [alPHA Strategic Plan 2024 to 2027](#) provides a broader picture of alPHA's role and priorities and the work being undertaken to support Ontario's local public health agencies and a strong public health system. The plan outlines four areas of focus: Be the unified voice and a trusted advisor on public health; Advance the work of local public health through strategic partnerships and collaborations; Support the sustainability of Ontario's local public health system, and Deliver member services to local public health leaders. Together, these priorities reflect alPHA's commitment to supporting local public health agencies, strengthening the public health system and delivering value to members. For members engaging with municipal candidates and community partners during the election period, the Strategic Plan can provide useful context on alPHA's role and the broader work being undertaken on behalf of local public health across Ontario.

Use These Resources During the Municipal Election Period!

The municipal election campaign provides an important opportunity to help candidates and communities better understand the role, value and breadth of local public health and the contribution it makes to healthy, safe and vibrant communities across Ontario.

alPHA has developed and collected a range of resources that members can draw on throughout the campaign. We encourage you to use them, share them and keep them close at hand as you engage with municipal candidates, elected officials, community partners and others interested in the future of local public health.

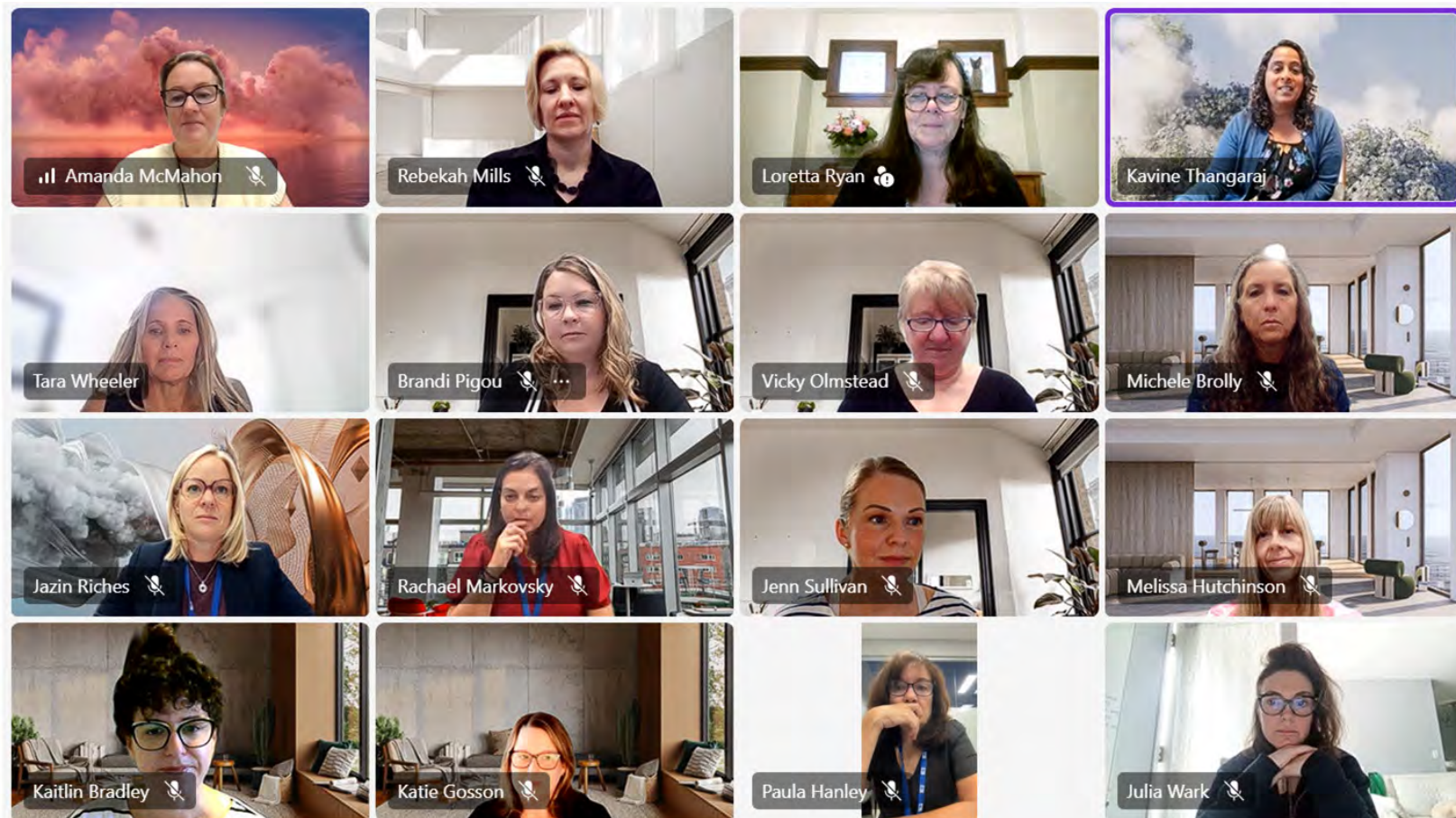
See what [Southwestern Public Health](#) and [Middlesex London Health Unit](#) are doing for the municipal election in their areas!

alPHA's Workplace Health and Wellness infographic: 60-Second Reset



Our latest Workplace Health and Wellness infographic, *60-Second Reset*, reminds us that taking just one minute during the workday can help reduce stress, improve focus and boost overall well-being. From a quick breathing exercise or gentle stretch to decluttering your workspace or taking a moment to reflect on what you're grateful for, these simple resets can help you pause, recharge, and return to your day feeling refreshed. Take a minute for yourself and check out the infographic for simple ways to build a 60-second reset into your workday. For more resources to support physical, mental, and nutritional health, visit the Workplace Wellness and Health section of the alPHA website [here](#).

alPHA's Workplace Health and Wellness Month: Durham Region Health Department



Congratulations to Durham Region Health Department for participating in alPHA's Workplace Health and Wellness Month. alPHA's CEO, Loretta Ryan, took the opportunity on September 17 to congratulate the team. We thank them again for their active participation. And, we can't wait to see what all the public health units do to address their mental, physical, and social well-being next year!





Health Promotion Ontario is excited to share that we have a new Strategic Plan! The updated focus areas will guide the work of HPO over the next several years to achieve HPO's Vision, Mission, and Mandate.

We will concentrate our efforts in: Advocacy, Partnership, Value for Members, Professional Development and Student Engagement.

Stay tuned for our upcoming initiatives in these five areas.

If you are interested in getting involved with Health Promotion Ontario, please reach out at: healthpromotionontario@gmail.com

VISION

To promote the health of Ontarians through excellence in health promotion practice.

MISSION

To be the collective voice for health promoters across Ontario and strive to advance health promotion and its practice.

MANDATE

- Connect health promoters working in a variety of settings and sectors to take action on and advance shared priorities.
- Advance health promotion excellence through recognition, knowledge exchange and professional development.
- Advocate for the critical importance of health promotion and its practice to key decision makers; and
- Offer a range of benefits to HPO membership, including opportunities to participate in provincial initiatives, professional development opportunities, resource sharing and networking.

FOCUS AREAS

Advocacy

Position health promotion as a key strategy to solving today's health challenges.

Partnership

Foster relationships that strengthen health promotion

Value for Members

Build a clear value for members through HPO services and products

Professional Development

Contribute to ongoing professional development for health promoters

Student Engagement

Build supports for and engagement with students

Logistics and Executive Machinery

Develop and maintain systems and processes to ensure smooth operation of HPO



Ontario Dietitians in Public Health

Diététistes en santé publique de l'Ontario

Ontario Dietitians in Public Health Releases Call to Action on Household Food Insecurity

Building on Ontario Dietitians in Public Health's Position Statement and Recommendations on Responses to Food Insecurity and the Food Insecurity and Affordability in Ontario report developed in collaboration with Public Health Ontario, a new Call to Action on Household Food Insecurity has been released. The Call to Action highlights the growing prevalence and inequitable impacts of household food insecurity in Ontario. It provides recommendations to address its root causes through income and social policy solutions. For more information visit odph.ca.



The Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO) represents public health inspection leaders across Ontario, supporting programs that protect communities through food safety, safe water, infectious disease prevention, health hazard management, and emergency response.

As Environmental Public Health Week (September 21-27, 2026) culminates on World Environmental Health Day, ASPHIO recognizes the vital contributions of Public Health Inspectors. This year's theme, Environmental Health: Standing with Science to Protect Communities, emphasizes evidence-based action to safeguard population health. ASPHIO continues advancing workforce sustainability and plans to leverage alPHA Resolution A26-02 in 2027 to support recruitment, education, mentorship, retention, and investment.



Quick Wins: Practical leadership and team-building tips you can put into action today.

A 90-Second Icebreaker to Reconnect Your Team After Summer

Early fall brings a familiar shift for local public health teams. Staff are back from vacation, coverage schedules return to normal, and committees, program teams, and leadership meetings pick back up after a quieter few months. Before everyone dives into the fall workload, though, there's real value in a few minutes spent reconnecting.

How do you get a room full of people (or a screen full of squares) to actually check in with each other, without turning your meeting into a 20-minute round-robin?

One of our favourite tools for this exact moment is The 6-Word Challenge. It takes about 90 seconds to do, and just a few minutes to share. It works great in person or virtually, requires zero materials or prep, and gets people sharing something real before the real work begins.

How It Works

Step 1: Set the Challenge and Prime Creative Thinking

Give everyone 90 seconds to sum up their summer (or the last month) in exactly six words. Fewer words are fine. It can be funny or serious, that's up to them.

Share a few examples like these to help people start to think creatively:

- Life is short, bike ride more.
- Slow weeks mean a happier me.
- Road trips and ice cream cones.
- Quiet office and inbox zero!

Step 2: Share It Out

Groups of 10 or fewer: go around the room and share. Larger groups: split into clusters of four or five so everyone still gets a turn.

Quick Wins: Practical leadership and team-building tips you can put into action today.

Bonus Step: Look Ahead Together

Take a few extra minutes for small groups to talk about what's ahead this fall, both the highlights and the challenges. It's a natural bridge from looking back to looking ahead before you move into the rest of your agenda.

Why It Works

Think of it as the grown-up version of the predictable back-to-school task of writing about "what I did on my summer vacation." It works whether your team spent the summer running clinics, prepping for the fall season, covering for colleagues on leave, or taking a much-needed break for some vacation time.

Six words force creativity without demanding a big time investment, and it gives every person on the team, from frontline staff to leadership, an equal chance to be known a little better by the people they work with. It's a small moment that helps a team feel like a team again before the fall agenda takes over.

Looking for practical leadership development, team-building experiences, or keynote presentations for your teams and leaders? Leaders for Leaders works with Public Health Units across Canada to help their teams build trust, accountability, collaboration, and change readiness through workshops and keynotes. Visit leadersforleaders.ca or email us at info@leadersforleaders.ca.





GenWell and alPHA, Building Healthier Communities Through Human Connection

At GenWell, Canada's Human Connection Movement, we're partnering with alPHA to offer an exclusive rate for workshops that turn the science of social health into practical action.

Human connection is a vitally important, and often overlooked, social determinant of health. When people lack meaningful relationships and support, it impacts mental and physical health, increases risks of addiction and isolation, and puts greater strain on our healthcare and social service systems.

By strengthening social health and connection, we can help you create communities where more people feel supported, included, and connected to the people and resources around them.

Human Connection Workshops are a cost-effective way to bring teams together while delivering value that lasts beyond the session. Rather than a one-time team-building activity, participants gain practical tools and behaviours that can strengthen relationships, improve collaboration and support a more connected workplace — making it a meaningful investment in both your people and your organization.





Ontario health-related organizations and stakeholders have come together around a shared action plan to reduce tobacco and nicotine dependence across the province. The Ontario Nicotine Action Table's report outlines practical actions to strengthen prevention, cessation and protection from nicotine related harms. [Read the report](#) [Read the news release](#)



Centre de collaboration nationale
sur les politiques publiques et la santé

National Collaborating Centre
for Healthy Public Policy

The National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy's (NCHPP) [new collection on municipal governance and public health](#) has just been published online. There is a collection of fact sheets on municipal governance designed to support public health organizations in their collaborative efforts with municipalities.



Treat Accessibly is encouraging Ontario families to make Halloween accessible for every child by offering treats from a driveway, garage or lobby, helping ensure children of all abilities can participate in the fun. The movement now includes more than 300,000 Canadian homes and asks only for participation, not donations. Learn more about [Treat Accessibly](#).



PHO Respiratory Virus Surveillance Resources for the 2026-27 Season

Public Health Ontario (PHO) has updated its respiratory virus surveillance resources to support monitoring of respiratory virus activity throughout the 2026-27 season.

Resources now available include:

- A new [2026-27 Respiratory Season Resources](#) webpage that brings together surveillance data, reports, guidance documents and educational resources in one convenient location.
- An updated [Ontario Respiratory Virus Tool](#) for the 2026-27 respiratory virus season, featuring several enhancements. Read PHO's News post for a detailed overview of what's new.

PHO will also host two upcoming PHO Rounds sessions focused on [Surveillance and Testing of Respiratory Pathogens in Ontario](#) (September 28) and [Overview of Seasonal Respiratory Virus Immunizations in Ontario](#) (October 8). Check out their event pages for more information.

Recently Published Resources

- [Immunization Data Tool](#) (vaccine safety data updated) with [Vaccine Safety in Ontario Infographic](#)
- [Blastomycosis Fact Sheet](#)
- [Emergency Preparedness Exercises: An Inventory of Public Health Planning Resources](#)
- [Emergency Management Learning Resources: An Inventory for Public Health Capacity Building](#)

Upcoming Events

- **September 23:** [PHO Rounds: Nicotine Pouch Use in Canada: Market Overview and Trends](#)
- **September 29:** [PHO Rounds: Celebrating 40 years of the Ottawa Charter, Part 1: Health Promotion in Practice](#)

Recent Presentations

- [2026 Ebola Disease Outbreak Due to Bundibugyo Virus in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda: Ontario Preparedness and Response](#)
- [Temporal Dynamics of Antimicrobial Resistance in *Shigella* in Ontario](#)

Dalla Lana

School of Public Health

Upcoming DLSPH Events and Webinars

- Modernizing Sex and Gender Survey Measurements (Sept. 22)
- 2S/LGBTQ+ Health Hub Lecture Series: The Impacts of Alberta's Bill 29 on Trans, Nonbinary, and Gender Diverse Athletes (Sept. 23)
- Health Inc Seminar Series Season 6, Episode 1 | Toward vaccine equity: Commercial forces, technological platforms, and the race to develop the Bundibugyo Ebola Vaccine (Sept. 24)
- Flavours of Home: Cultural Meal Provision through Ontario's Meals on Wheels Programs (Sept. 24)
- From Trauma to Meaning: Trauma-Focused Managing Cancer and Living Meaningfully Workshop (Oct. 2)



Ontario Public Health Directory - May update



The Ontario Public Health Directory has been updated and is available on the ALPHA website. Please ensure you have the latest version, which has been dated as of **May 13, 2026**. To view the file, log into the ALPHA website.



Exclusive home and auto insurance rates for healthcare professionals



With **The Personal**, healthcare professionals like you can experience personalized support while benefitting from exclusive rates with your group. We've partnered with the **Association of Local Public Health Agencies** because you deserve home and auto insurance that puts you first.

With **The Personal**, you could get:



Special rates not available to the general public



Exceptional customer service from insurance agents who go the extra mile



Online services to file a claim, access your proof of insurance and easily update your policy

Join the 65,000+ healthcare professionals who already trust us.¹

**Get a quote online
and switch today**

thepersonal.com/alpha

1-888-476-8737

The Personal refers to The Personal Insurance Company. Certain conditions, limitations and exclusions may apply. Savings are based on each client's individual profile. Savings and discounts are subject to eligibility conditions. Rates and discounts are subject to change without notice. Auto insurance is not available in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia due to government-run plans. The Personal® and related trademarks are trademarks of The Personal Insurance Company, used under licence. As ranked by Forbes 2025 World's Best Homeowners and Auto Insurance Companies.

¹Internal statistics of The Personal: Approximate number of policyholders that belong to groups of healthcare professionals across all Canadian provinces, January 2026.

This email is being sent by the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, on behalf of The Personal, located at 3 Robert Speck Pkwy, Mississauga, Ontario, L4Z 3Z9, 1-888-476-8737.

For more information on The Personal, please click [here](#) (English) and [here](#) for French.



NEWS

News Releases

The most up to date news releases from the Government of Ontario can be accessed [here](#).

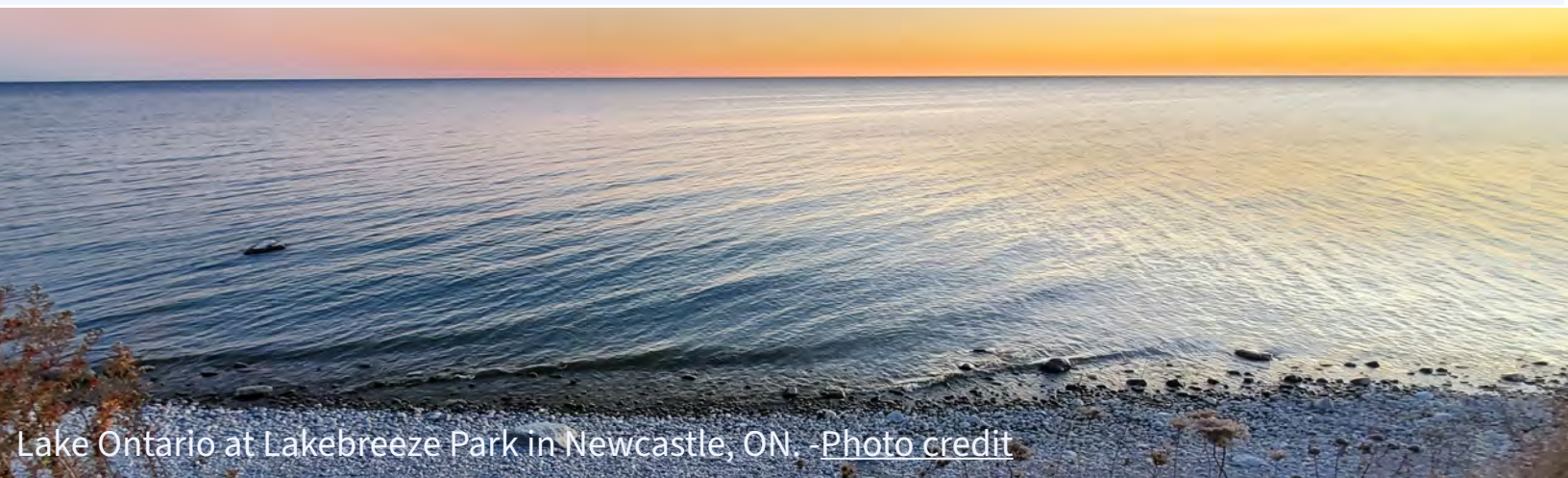


alPHA's mailing address

Please note our mailing address is:

PO Box 73510, RPO Wychwood
Toronto, ON M6C 4A7

For further information, please contact info@alphaweb.org.



Lake Ontario at Lakebreeze Park in Newcastle, ON. -[Photo credit](#)

This update is a tool to keep alPHA's Members apprised of the latest news in public health including provincial announcements, legislation, alPHA activities, correspondence, and events. Visit us at alphaweb.org.