

AGENDA

2026 alPHa ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) & RESOLUTIONS SESSION

Tuesday, June 9, 2026 from 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. EDT

Radisson Blu, Toronto Downtown

249 Queens Quay W, Toronto, ON M5J 2N5

AGM Chair: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, alPHa

Resolutions Chair and Parliamentarian: Dr. Robert Kyle

1. **CALL TO ORDER & LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang
2. **REVIEW OF AGENDA / DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang
APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION:

THAT alPHa's Membership approves the agenda.

3. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- i. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2025 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang
Meeting was held in-person on June 19, 2025. (attached)
- ii. **CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT** Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang/Loretta Ryan
(Excerpt from the 2025-2026 alPHa Annual Report attached)
- iii. **REPORT ON 2025 ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS (attached)** Loretta Ryan
- iv. **BOARDS OF HEALTH SECTION REPORT (attached)** Tammy DeGiovanni
- v. **COUNCIL OF ONTARIO MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH SECTION REPORT (attached)** Dr. Pepi McTavish
- vi. **AFFILIATES REPORT (attached)** Cynthia St. John
- vii. **SLATE OF NOMINEES – 2026-2027 BOARD OF DIRECTORS (attached)** Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang

MOTION:

THAT alPHa's Membership approves the items 3i to 3 vii in the consent agenda.

4. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang/Loretta Ryan

Receipt of the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements

MOTION:

WHEREAS the alpha Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the 2025-2026 audited financial statements;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the 2025-2026 audited financial statements be received by alpha's Membership as distributed.

5. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2026-2027

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang

MOTION: THAT alpha's Membership approve the appointment of Chaplin & Co. LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants as the organization's auditor for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

6. RESOLUTIONS SESSION

(Please refer to the Resolutions package.)

Dr. Robert Kyle

7. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang



Association of Local
PUBLIC HEALTH
Agencies

DRAFT MINUTES

2025 alPHa ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & RESOLUTIONS SESSION

Thursday, June 19, 2025, from 10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Pantages Hotel, Rehearsal Hall, 3rd Floor, 200 Victoria St. Toronto, ON M5B 1V8

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the alPHa Chair, T. Sachowski, at 10:21 a.m. The Land Acknowledgement was also read.

2. REVIEW OF AGENDA/DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A review of the agenda took place. The agenda was approved on a motion by B. Martin, seconded by J. King, and carried.

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

(i) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(ii) CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A report was attached to the meeting package.

(iii) REPORT ON 2024 ANNUAL MEETING RESOLUTIONS

A report on the 2024 Annual Meeting Resolutions was shared by L. Ryan.

(iv) BOARDS OF HEALTH SECTION REPORT

The Boards of Health Section Report was shared by T. DeGiovanni.

(v) COUNCIL OF ONTARIO MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH SECTION REPORT

The Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health Section Report was shared by L. Catton.

(vi) AFFILIATES REPORT

The Affiliates Report was shared by C. St. John.

(vii) SLATE OF NOMINEES – 2025-2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Slate of Nominees – 2025-2026 Board of Directors was shared by T. Sachowski.

MOTION: Approval of the Consent Agenda took place on a motion by C. Gardner. It was seconded by S. Rebellato and carried.

4. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

The Report of the Treasurer was shared by T. Sachowski and L. Ryan.

MOTION: Whereas the alPHa Board of Directors has reviewed and approved the 2024-2025 audited financial statements;

Therefore, be it resolved that the 2024-2025 audited financial statements be received by alPHa's membership as distributed. It was moved by R. Champagne, seconded by P. Roumeliotis, and carried.

5. APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR FOR 2025-2026

MOTION: That alPha’s membership approve the appointment of Chaplin & Co. LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, as the organization’s auditor for the 2025 to 2026 fiscal year, was moved by C. St. John, seconded by L. Catton, and carried.

6. 2024-2025 ALPHA BOARD RECOGNITION

alPha Chief Executive Officer, L. Ryan, recognized outgoing members of the current Board of Directors and outgoing members who have completed their terms. She thanked them for their contributions over the past year.

7. RESOLUTIONS

Resolution #A25-01: Integrating the Ontario Early Adversity and Resilience Framework into Public Health Practice to Improve Population Health Outcomes. Amendments to the Resolution were made.

MOTION: That the Resolution, as amended, be approved was moved by A. Kungl, seconded by C. Lee, and carried.

Resolution #A25-02: Indigenous Representation on Boards of Health. Amendments were made to the Resolution.

MOTION: To refer the Resolution to the alPha Board of Directors for review was moved by A. Kasmani, seconded by B. Martin, and carried.

Resolution #A25-03: Preventing heavy metal exposure from contaminated spices, cosmetics, ceremonial powders and products sold for natural health purposes. Amendments were made to the Resolution.

MOTION: To approve the Resolution as amended was moved by N. Brandon, seconded by S. Padhi, and carried.

Resolution #A25-04: Strengthening Public Health and Judicial Responses to the Opioid Toxicity Crisis in Ontario, with a Focus on Protecting Indigenous Communities. Amendments were made to the Resolution.

MOTION: To table the amended Resolution was moved by A. Kasmani, seconded by T. Piggott, and carried.

The 2025 alPha resolutions were considered by the Membership. Following is the disposition of these resolutions:

Resolution #	Title	Sponsor	Action from Conference
A25-01	INTEGRATING THE ONTARIO EARLY ADVERSITY AND RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK INTO PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE TO IMPROVE POPULATION HEALTH OUTCOMES	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Durham Region Health Department, and Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit	Carried as amended
A25-02	INDIGENOUS REPRESENTATION ON BOARDS OF HEALTH	Public Health Sudbury & Districts	Referred to the alPha Board of Directors for review
A25-03 (Late Resolution)	PREVENTING HEAVY METAL EXPOSURE FROM CONTAMINATED SPICES, COSMETICS, CEREMONIAL POWDERS AND PRODUCTS SOLD FOR NATURAL HEALTH PURPOSES	Peel Public Health and Toronto Public Health	Carried as amended
A25-04 (Late Resolution)	STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH AND JUDICIAL RESPONSES TO THE OPIOID TOXICITY CRISIS IN ONTARIO, WITH A FOCUS ON PROTECTING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES	Grey Bruce Public Health	Tabled for discussion next year

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.



Association of Local
PUBLIC HEALTH
Agencies

CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT 2025-2026

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) is the collective voice of Ontario's local public health agencies. Your participation ensures local public health perspectives remain visible in a complex provincial and municipal policy environment. alPHA unites Boards of Health, Medical and Associate Medical Officers of Health, and Affiliate organizations to strengthen leadership, coordination, and policy engagement across the public health system. In a time of ongoing system transformation, funding pressures, workforce challenges, and growing community needs, a strong, coordinated voice is essential. Your membership enables this leadership.

Advancing Member Priorities & Government Relationships

Over the past year, alPHA maintained a strong public policy presence. Local priorities were advanced through initiatives such as a formal pre-budget submission and an in-person deputation, highlighting the need for funding stability, sustainability, and the essential role of local public health in supporting a resilient health system and economy. A milestone this year was the release of *Public Health Matters – A Strong Economy Supported by Healthy Communities*, an infographic demonstrating how healthy communities drive economic productivity, reduce health costs, and support long-term prosperity. It is a part of the compendium of Public Health Matters series that reinforces messaging with provincial and municipal leaders and is available for Members to use in local advocacy.

alPHA engaged municipal leaders and sector partners at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference (August 2025) and the Rural Ontario Municipal Association Conference (January 2026), including meetings with the AMO President. Key discussions with the Ontario Medical Association strengthened alignment on sustainable funding, system capacity, and community health protection. These activities ensure local public health leadership remains informed and influential in funding, policy, and system design decisions.

Supporting Members Through System Change

alPHA continues to engage Members on provincial system transformation, including revised standards and implementation considerations. By convening leadership perspectives, identifying shared challenges, and highlighting opportunities, alPHA supports effective adaptation.

Priorities such as predictable, adequate funding and digital modernization remain central to maintaining service delivery, workforce sustainability, and operational efficiency across local public health agencies.

Member Events

Member engagement across in-person and virtual events remains a cornerstone of value:

- Annual General Meeting and Conference (June 2025) – Co-hosted with Toronto Public Health
- Government Relations Session (July 2025) – Positioned local public health within a changing political environment
- Fall Symposium and Workshops (2025) – Co-hosted with Southwestern Public Health
- Winter Symposium and Workshops (2026) – Co-hosted with Region of Waterloo Public Health

Many thanks to our co-host local public health agencies and the speakers, moderators and agencies who provided Workshops. Special thanks to Eastern Ontario Health Unit and the Dalla Lana School of Public Health for their ongoing support of alPHA events and we couldn't do it without you! alPHA events provide accessible opportunities for learning, leadership development, collaboration, and peer connection.

Representation, Partnerships & Member Supports

Through its Board, Sections, and Affiliates, alPHA consistently represents Members' interests with key system partners.

This ensures coordinated messaging, prompt engagement, and effective positioning of local public health priorities. Governance and leadership support continue through Boards of Health Governance and Social Determinants of Health training, supporting orientation, professional development, and team learning. Timely updates from alPHa, including those via the *Information Break* newsletter, keep Members informed of policy developments, engagement activity, and collaboration opportunities.

Membership Fees and Value

The alPHa Board of Directors approved a modest 1 per cent increase in Membership revenue, balancing fiscal pressures on Members with operational requirements. This ensures continued delivery of public policy engagement, leadership support, learning opportunities, and Member services without compromising affordability.

Your Membership Makes This Work Possible

Your membership sustains a coordinated leadership presence for local public health across Ontario. It supports:

- Policy positions and relationship-building with provincial and municipal partners
- Leadership development for Members
- Timely information sharing and peer connection
- Collective capacity to navigate system change

Together, our collective voice strengthens the position of local public health, supports governance and leadership, and reinforces prevention and community-based public health as essential to population health and system sustainability.

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hsiu-Li Wang'.

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang
Chair



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Loretta Ryan'.

Loretta Ryan
Chief Executive Officer

To access linked correspondence, original Resolutions, and other materials, please visit
http://www.alphaweb.org/?page=alPHa_Resolutions

[Disposition of alPHa Resolutions 2026](#)

[A25-01 - OEAR Framework](#)

[A25-03 - Heavy Metal Exposure](#)

Please note that two other Resolutions (assigned numbers A25-02 and A25-04) were considered but not passed. A25-02 was referred to the alPHa Board of Directors, which resulted in the transmission of an [alPHa Letter recommending Indigenous membership on Boards of Health](#).

A25-01, Integrating the Ontario Early Adversity and Resilience Framework into Public Health Practice to Improve Population Health Outcomes

THAT the Association of Local Public Health Agencies endorses the Ontario Early Adversity and Resilience Framework as a comprehensive resource for public health alPHa Disposition of Resolutions – 2025 4 practice in Ontario; AND FURTHER that alPHa write a letter to the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) recommending that the Ontario Early Adversity and Resilience Framework be referenced within the upcoming version of the Ontario Public Health Standards as a key resource for implementing the related standards, including health equity, comprehensive health promotion, and substance use prevention; AND FURTHER that alPHa write a letter to the Minister of Health, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, and the Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, with a copy to the CMOH, sharing this Framework as a potential foundational document across sectors that are working to prevent early adversity and promote resilience, and to help illustrate the role of local public health in this work.

Developments on A25-01:

August 6, 2025

Separate letters have been sent from the alPHa Chair to the [Chief Medical Officer of Health](#) and to three provincial ministers introducing this Resolution and outlining the expected actions for each.

Resolution A25-03, Preventing heavy metal exposure from contaminated spices, cosmetics, ceremonial powders and products sold for natural health purposes

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that robust review of evidence, policies and regulations is needed to identify gaps and measures to prevent heavy metal exposure; AND FURTHER that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies communicate to Health Canada regarding concerns, and further scope the issue regarding population-level heavy metal exposure linked to contamination of imported spices, cosmetics, ceremonial powders and

products sold for natural health purposes in Canada; AND FURTHER Health Canada and Canadian Food Inspection Agency undertake a regulatory review including all stakeholders, such as the Canadian Border Security Agency (CBSA), to identify gaps in measures to prevent and respond to exposure to heavy metals in imported products. Additionally, we recommend that these agencies establish ongoing education and undertake monitoring of, and explore means to reduce to, exposure to heavy metals in imported spices, cosmetics, ceremonial powders and products sold for natural health purposes.

Developments on A25-03:

[Letter](#) sent from the alpha Chair to the federal Minister of Health introducing this Resolution and outlining expected actions.



Association of Local
PUBLIC HEALTH
Agencies

BOARDS OF HEALTH SECTION
Annual General Meeting Report
2025-2026

ALPHA BOH Section Executive Committee, ALPHA Board of Directors, and ALPHA Executive Committee:

The Boards of Health (BOH) Section and its Executive Committee continue to play a central role in shaping ALPHA's direction and advancing the interests of local public health agencies across Ontario.

The past year was a busy and productive one for the BOH Section Executive Committee. Key areas of focus included the Ministry of Health's Strengthening Public Health initiative, with particular attention to agencies navigating voluntary mergers; continuing a review of ALPHA's governance-level policies and procedures to ensure alignment with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA); and ongoing efforts to advance the priorities outlined in the ALPHA Strategic Plan.

Throughout the year, the BOH Section Executive Committee collaborated closely with the ALPHA Board of Directors and Executive Committee to strengthen relationships with a broad range of partners, including the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Ontario, Ontario Health, the Ontario Medical Association, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and GenWell. The Committee also made substantial contributions to [ALPHA Correspondence](#) and the development of public policy positions.

ALPHA Boards of Health Section Executive Committee:

ALPHA's BOH Section Executive Committee members are public health leaders and dedicated volunteers. Your ALPHA BOH Section Executive Committee representatives on the ALPHA Board of Directors for 2025 to 2026 are listed below. Their bios can be found [here](#).

Tammy DeGiovanni, East Region, ALPHA BOH Section Chair (June 2025 to June 2026)

Bernia Martin, South West Region, ALPHA Vice Chair (June 2025 to June 2026)

Trudy Sachowski, North West Region, ALPHA Past Chair (June 2025 to June 2026)

Sue Perras, North East Region (June 2025 to June 2026)

Ann-Marie Kungl, Central East Region (June 2025 to June 2026)

John Bell, Central West Region (November 2025 to June 2026)

Charles Ozzoude, Toronto (June 2025 to June 2026)

In May 2026, the BOH Section determined its Executive Committee representatives for the 2026-2028 term. Carmen McGregor, South West Region, and Conny Glenn, East Region, were both acclaimed. They will join Trudy Sachowski, Sue Perras, Ann-Marie Kungl, and Charles Ozzoude to form the 2026-2027 BOH Section Executive Committee. The position for Central West will be filled at the first BOH Section Executive Committee meeting of the new term. I wish this incoming leadership team all the best in the year ahead.

2026 BOH Section Distinguished Service Award:

I would like to congratulate James McPherson on receiving this year's BOH Section Distinguished Service Award. He is an outstanding volunteer and public health leader, and it is wonderful to see his important contributions recognized.

ALPHA BOH Section Executive Committee and ALPHA BOH Section Membership Meetings:

The BOH Section Executive Committee convened virtually five times during the term: October 16, 2025; December 11, 2025; February 26, 2026; April 23, 2026; and May 5, 2026.

The BOH Section Membership met virtually on May 5, 2026. Members will next come together in person on June 10, 2026, at the alPHa Annual General Meeting and Conference in Toronto.

Throughout the term, BOH Section Executive Committee members actively engaged in alPHa Board of Directors meetings, working group sessions, and consultations, bringing the Section's perspective to each.

alPHa BOH Section and alPHa Communications:

The BOH Section Executive Committee contributed to alPHa's monthly newsletter, *Information Break*, and to alPHa's infographics, that are accessible on the alPHa website and invaluable for keeping Members current on public health developments. Coverage spans provincial announcements, legislative updates, alPHa activities, consultation opportunities, Correspondence, and upcoming events. alPHa also continues to deliver Ministry of Health updates and other time-sensitive notifications directly to BOH Section Members. Appreciation is owed to each of the Board-delegated administrative contacts whose diligence in disseminating information through their networks has been essential to keeping Members well-informed.

BOH Section communications remain compliant with the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (Ontario) General Operating By-Law No. 2 and alPHa policies and procedures, in support of all BOH Section Members in their leadership and legislated governance roles.

Thank you to the many Members who took the time to engage, share input, and communicate with alPHa and their respective BOH Regional Representatives. All boards are warmly encouraged to stay involved by reaching out to communications@alphaweb.org.

Sincere thanks are also extended to alPHa staff for their steadfast commitment and support to the association's leadership.

Above all, thank you to each of you for your dedication to local public health and for your continued support of alPHa as the strong, unified voice of Ontario's local public health system.

Respectfully submitted,



Tammy DeGiovanni
BOH Section Executive Committee Chair



Association of Local
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COUNCIL OF ONTARIO MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH SECTION
Annual General Meeting Report
2025-2026

As Chair of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health Section (COMOH), and on behalf of my fellow 2025-26 COMOH Section Executive Committee colleagues (Drs. Azim Kasmani, Hsiu-Li Wang, Michelle Murti, Trevor Arnason, Ninh Tran and Kit Young Hoon), I am pleased to provide this report to the annual general meeting of the alPHa membership.

COMOH Section Priorities for 2025-2026

This past year began with the expectation that substantial progress would be made on the Province's *Strengthening Public Health* initiative, that was announced in August 2023. The three elements of this project were voluntary mergers, a review of the Ontario Public Health Standards, and a review of the current funding formula.

The voluntary mergers have been completed (although work on operational harmonization is expected to continue in each of the four new entities for some time), but the other two are on hold pending formal Ministerial approval of the 2026 OPHS, which were released in draft form in late 2025. We have been advised by the CMOH to use the draft for current planning purposes, but we can reasonably expect that a formal funding review will not take place until after their formal approval and implementation.

Despite uncertainties created by these delays, discussions continued with our provincial partners, including the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health Ontario, and the Public Health Leadership Table, which have been productive and given us valuable guidance.

Other matters receiving our collective attention over the past year included expediting Ministry approvals of new MOH / AMOH hires, recommendations for ISPA enforcement, recommendations for IPAC lapse responses, changes to PHO's provision of certain community testing supplies, cyber security resources, and providing recommendations for the amendment to Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act that requires the approval of the CMOH prior to issuing class orders.

COMOH Section Membership

This was another year that brought numerous changes within the COMOH Section membership, including retirements, resignations, secondments, and appointments. I am very pleased to report that Drs. Charles Gardner and Monir Taha have been endorsed as COMOH Emeritus members following their respective retirements and hope we will continue to benefit from their accumulated wisdom. I would also like to recognize Drs. Michelle Murti and Kit Young Hoon for their important contributions as mid-term replacements for Drs. Na-Koshie Lamptey and Lianne Catton respectively on the COMOH Section Executive Committee and alPHa Board of Directors.

Finally, I am pleased to report that we also amended the COMOH Section Terms of Reference to include the expectation that each regional representative to the COMOH Section Executive Committee / alPHa Board of Directors serve for a minimum of two years. This is aligned with existing Boards of Health Section practices and reinforces continuity.

COMOH Section Meetings

Following several years of meeting monthly, the COMOH Section Executive Committee agreed that bi-monthly meetings would be sufficient, to take place early in the same months that included COMOH Section meetings. This was also the first year in which online Section meetings were decoupled from alPHa's online Fall and Winter Symposia, which allowed staff to focus on and expand these larger events to be inclusive of the entire alPHa Membership. COMOH Section

members certainly appreciated the opportunity to participate in governance-oriented sessions that had traditionally been part of the Boards of Health Section meetings, and we heard no objections to this scheduling decision. That said, we are looking forward to the annual in-person meeting that continues to be part of alPHA's annual conference.

COMOH Section Working Groups

As alPHA continues to ensure its governance and accountability structures align with the provisions of the General Operating By-law that was devised to bring the Association into compliance with the Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act (ONCA), we must ensure that any entity that identifies as a COMOH Section working group adhere to these provisions. If the structure, scope, and/or purpose of such entities do not, our aim is to determine how they should proceed in a way that valuable work can continue.

The **Drug and Opioid Crisis Working Group** (Lead: Dr. Linna Li, Deputy MOH, South East), **Digital Solutions Working Group** (Lead: Dr. Nicholas Brandon, AMOH, Peel), and partnership between COMOH and the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (**CODE-COMOH**)(COMOH Co-Chair – Dr. Allison Chris, AMOH, Toronto) as well as the **Public Health and Early Years** Group (No current Chair) remain active as we consider options. Others, such as the Vaccine Working Group, have already migrated to the Ministry.

COMOH Section Executive Committee 2026-27

With the conclusion of my term as COMOH Section Chair, I am very pleased to report that the following slate of Officers and Regional Representatives has been endorsed by the Council as its Executive Committee and COMOH's representatives on the alPHA Board of Directors for the coming year, pending formal approval by the alPHA membership. As mentioned above, the expectation that regional representatives serve a minimum 2-year term was implemented immediately, which means each member of the 2025-26 COMOH Section Executive Committee will continue to serve, while the Officer roles continue their annual rotation.

Chair	East	Trevor Arnason
Vice Chair	Southwest	Ninh Tran
Past Chair	Central East	Pepi McTavish
alPHA Past Chair	Ex officio	Hsiu-Li Wang
	Central West	Azim Kasmani
	Toronto	Michelle Murti
	North	Kit Young Hoon

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the contributions of COMOH Section members who generously shared time and expertise to various COMOH Section initiatives, as well as the COMOH Section Executive and alPHA Board for their support during what was another active year in public health. I would also like to thank Gord Fleming, Melanie Dziengo, and Loretta Ryan from the alPHA office for their invaluable support.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Pepi McTavish
Chair, Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health



Association of Local
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AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS
Annual General Meeting Report
2025-2026

alPHA's Affiliate member organizations had a very busy year since our last alPHA annual general meeting in June 2025. The current members representing the Affiliate organizations on the alPHA Board of Directors for 2025-2026 include:

AOPHBA (Business Administrators):	Cynthia St. John
APHEO (Public Health Epidemiologists):	Caitlyn Paget
ASPHIO (Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors):	Heidi Pitfield
HPO (Health Promotion Ontario):	Shannon Robinson
OAPHD (Public Health Dentistry):	Paul Sharma
ODPH (Ontario Dietitians in Public Health):	Carolyn Doris
OPHNL (Public Health Nursing Leaders):	Joanne Figliano-Scott

These seven (7) associations that represent alPHA's Affiliates met throughout the last twelve (12) months. Individually, these Associations/Groups have advanced public health's work significantly. Each Association/Group is comprised of dozens of members that represent extensive public health knowledge, experience, and talent. Together, the entire Affiliates' group encompasses the widest ranging and largest number of public health disciplines all with the focus of improving health and well-being of communities across Ontario.

Detailed reports are attached from each Affiliate, but some brief highlights from some of them include:

- HPO's "Emerging Topics in Health Promotion" webinar series that engaged hundreds of registrants spotlighting innovative approaches and evolving priorities in health promotion practice.
- ASPHIO's collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors to strengthen the public health inspector workforce.
- ODPH's advocacy work in the areas of nutrition and equity.
- AOPHBA's successful lunch and learn series, promoting professional development and giving members an opportunity to hear about innovative and/or top of the mind issues in public health, relevant to their leadership roles.
- OAPHD's work in developing its strategic plan outlining a clear, evidence-informed roadmap to strengthen public health dentistry during a period of significant system transformation.

alPHA is uniquely poised to continue to further the important work of local public health. The voices of all the members within the affiliate associations/groups are key to making measurable advancements in public health across Ontario. We will continue to influence change in the public health landscape so that every member of every community has the same opportunities for optimal health and well-being.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia St. John, Past President, Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators
Member, alPHA Board of Directors and Member, alPHA Executive

The following is a summary of key activities in 2025 to 2026 for each Affiliate group.

Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators – AOPHBA – *Larry Stinson*

The AOPHBA's mission is to strengthen and influence public health leadership through advocacy, collaboration and development. It is these three pillars that are the focus for its goals and this report.

Advocacy

The Association continues to leverage its relationship with the Ministry of Health staff, connecting those staff with the Executive regularly for mutual discussion. We provided feedback on the PHU Reporting Dashboard and facilitated the OntarioMD survey regarding PHU EMR Certification.

Collaboration

A new SharePoint site and Teams channel were launched. Members use this site to share information and resources. Actions are underway to improve the site based on member feedback.

The AOPHBA's new external website was also launched in September.

2025 marked the Association's transition year to an organizational-wide membership. As a result, we have seen the membership expand considerably.

Development

The AOPHBA provides lunch and learns and an annual conference for professional development. The 2025 annual conference was hosted by Middlesex-London Health Unit. The theme was: The Art of Adaptation: From Turmoil to Triumph. Planning is underway for the 2026 conference which will be hosted by Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.

Finally, a main focus for 2026 is the renewal of the strategic plan itself. Members have been surveyed and focus groups conducted. This information will form part of the background for the Executive retreat to be held in June.

Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario – APHEO – *Caitlyn Paget*

APHEO is pleased to share key contacts for topic-specific Core Data Advisory Collaboratives (CDACs):

- ❖ **Immunization** ImmunizationCDAC@apheo.ca
Chaired by Vidya Sunil (Lakelands), and Jasantha Naidoo (Durham).

- ❖ **Infectious Disease** InfectiousDiseaseCDAC@apheo.ca
Chaired by Sherri Deamond (Durham) and Virginia McFarland (Sudbury).

- ❖ **Substance Use** SubstanceUseCDAC@apheo.ca
Chaired by Dylan Melmer (North Bay Parry Sound) and Michael King (Sudbury)

These are the contact points to reach the broader community of epidemiologists and analysts for a given topic. These groups come together with the insight that we are stronger when we collaborate and learn together. Please contact the CDACs when you are looking for topic-specific epi consultation, or when you come across data and resources that could benefit all health units.

The Core Data Advisory Collaboratives are formalized working groups to support sharing of methods, resources, analysis code, and products; data coordination; knowledge exchange and problem solving. More information is available at <https://www.apheo.ca/core-data-advisory-collaboratives-1>.

Additional CDACs will be created for all topics covered by the Ontario Public Health Standards. Health Units that are interested in contributing to chairing specific topics can reach out to CDAC@apheo.ca.

Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry – OAPHD – *Paul Sharma*

The Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry has released its finalized Strategic Plan 2026–2030, outlining a clear, evidence-informed roadmap to strengthen public health dentistry during a period of significant system transformation.

The plan positions OAPHD as a provincial standard-setter, trusted partner, and policy voice, with a strong focus on integrating oral health into the broader health and social system.

It emphasizes system integration, practice standards, prevention, and equity, responding directly to CDCP implementation, workforce pressures, data and practice consistency, and widening oral health inequities, while supporting Medical Officers of Health and public health units to advance prevention-focused, equitable oral health across Ontario.

OAPHD has spent the past year focusing on the following issues:

- Provided leadership pertaining to provincial public health oral health programs,
- Ensuring Ontario context is understood and included in the implementation of the Canadian Dental Care Plan (children, adults and seniors) and how current Ontario programs can integrate, and
- Community water fluoridation.

Health Promotion Ontario – HPO – *Shannon Robinson*

As the voice for health promotion professionals across Ontario, HPO continued its efforts to strengthen and advance the field through leadership, professional development, advocacy, and member engagement.

The Executive Committee met monthly and hosted the Annual General Meeting virtually on December 10, 2025, with 47 attendees. The AGM featured a keynote address by Claire Betker, Scientific Director of the National Collaborating Centre for Determinants of Health, on the Core Competencies for Public Health in Canada 2.0 and their application to health promotion practice.

Professional development remained a priority, and HPO hosted an “Emerging Topics in Health Promotion” webinar series, which explored innovative and evolving approaches in the field. The two webinars attracted 263 registrants, bringing together professionals, students, and emerging leaders from across Ontario. The series was supported by a volunteer working group of early-career professionals who strengthened their skills in event planning, facilitation, and networking.

HPO also enhanced its website and newsletter to better support member engagement and communications. Looking ahead, HPO aims to grow membership and continue fostering connections to strengthen health promotion practice. An updated strategic plan will be released in 2026.

Ontario Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders – OPHNL – *Joanne Figliano-Scott*

OPHNL continues advancing the priorities of its 2024–2027 Strategic Plan while expanding opportunities for member engagement, learning, and networking.

On April 2, 2026, the Executive Committee met in person to review progress toward strategic goals, identify emerging opportunities and challenges, and set priorities and actions for 2026.

On April 16, 2026, OPHNL convened over 50 public health nursing leaders to reconnect, strengthen networks, support collaboration, and explore the role of AI in public health. Dr. Moore provided an update on the public health landscape, and speakers from Wellington Dufferin Guelph and Simcoe Muskoka District Health Units discussed the use of AI in local public health agencies.

On May 11, 2026, OPHNL hosted a virtual Nursing Week event with over 600 participants. Dr. Karima Velji shared updates on emerging nursing issues, Dr. Claire Betker and Margaret Haworth-Brockman discussed the Core Competencies for Public Health in Canada and their application to nursing, and Renee Boi-Doku provided an update on PHN discipline-specific competencies.

Member workgroups align with three priorities: Leading Through Change, Meaningful Member Opportunities, and the Role of Nurses in Public Health. A website redesign and sharing platform to support networking, collaboration, and resource sharing is planned for Q4 2026.

Ontario Dietitians in Public Health – ODPH – Carolyn Doris

ODPH members are experts in human nutrition focusing on improving health and preventing disease, creating supportive nutrition environments, addressing health inequities, monitoring and surveillance, and research.

ODPH continues to implement a renewed strategic plan focusing on member support, knowledge translation, partnerships, collective contribution, and public relations. ODPH members collaborate with the goal of strengthening efficiencies within Ontario's public health system. This year, ODPH invested in the use of Microsoft Teams for members, launched a new website with centralized resources, and led a variety of advocacy activities related to nutrition and equity.

Dedicated ODPH workgroups bring together registered dietitians to lead projects and use evidence to inform work at the local level, provincially and nationally.

ODPH continues to build relationships and work with key partners including Ministries of Health, Education, and Children, Community and Social Services, Public Health Ontario, the National Public Health Nutrition Task Force and Dietetic Education Leadership Forum of Ontario to promote efficiencies, leverage public health nutrition work and support population health promotion learning among dietetic students.

More information can be found at www.odph.ca.

Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario – ASPHIO – Heidi Pitfield

ASPHIO continues to demonstrate leadership in advancing Ontario's public health inspection system. The 2026 Spring Conference in Toronto (April 27–28), themed "Smart Data. Strong People. Collective Knowledge. Empowering the Future of Public Health Inspection" brought together leaders from across the province. It featured expert perspectives on inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility (IDEA), quality improvement, and digital transformation.

In parallel, ASPHIO is collaborating closely with the Ministry of Health and the Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors (CIPHI) to strengthen Public Health Inspector (PHI) workforce capacity. A recent Ministry-led, province-wide survey assessing PHI capacity will inform key initiatives, including workforce planning, business intelligence development, and quality improvement efforts.

Consultations and ongoing engagement with members and partners continue to highlight both progress and persistent challenges, including increasing competency demands, system barriers, and the need for sustainable workforce solutions. ASPHIO is working with academic institutions to enhance recruitment, streamline curriculum, and support consistent, high-quality PHI practice across jurisdictions.

To further advance this work, ASPHIO has submitted a resolution to the 2026 alPHa AGM calling for strengthened PHI capacity. A well-resourced and sustainable PHI workforce remains essential to ensuring equitable service delivery, improving emergency preparedness, and supporting Boards of Health in meeting mandated responsibilities.

PREAMBLE

This year’s slate of nominees, already endorsed by their respective Sections or Affiliate Organizations, according to their existing processes, is therefore presented for formal vote by the alPHa Membership below.

Following the endorsement of the full slate of nominees by the alPHa Membership, each is confirmed, and officers are formally elected at a special meeting of the alPHa Board of Directors.

SLATE OF NOMINEES – 2026-2027 alPHa BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2026 – 2027 BOH Section Representatives/alPHa BOH Section Executive Committee	
East	Conny Glenn
South West	Carmen McGregor
North West	Trudy Sachowski
Central East	Ann-Marie Kungl
North East	Sue Perras
Toronto	Charles Ozzoude
Central West	TBD by BOH Section Executive per alPHa General Operating By-law
2026 – 2027 COMOH Section Representatives	
Central East	Dr. Pepi McTavish
East	Dr. Trevor Arnason
North	Dr. Kit Young Hoon
Ex Officio/alPHa Past Chair	Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang
Toronto	Dr. Michelle Murti
Central West	Dr. Azim Kasmani
South West	Dr. Ninh Tran
2026 – 2027 Affiliate Representatives	
APHEO	Caitlyn Paget
OAPHD	Paul Sharma
HPO	Shannon Robinson
OPHNL	Joanne Figliano-Scott
ASPHIO	Heidi Pitfield
ODPH	Carolyn Doris
AOPHBA	Cynthia St. John

NOMINATION PROCESS BACKGROUND

The processes followed by the alPHa Sections and Affiliate Organizations to nominate their slates are determined by each prior to presentation to the alPHa Membership:

alPHa Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health Section: Regional cohorts follow their own processes to put forward a nominee, subject to the parameters of the alPHa COMOH Section Terms of Reference. These are endorsed by the alPHa COMOH Section Membership prior to presentation to the alPHa Membership as their nominees to the alPHa Board of Directors.

alPHA Boards of Health Section: alPHA Boards of Health Section Executive nominees are elected by the Section to staggered two-year terms. Elections are now held in advance of the Annual General Meeting, following which nominees and alPHA BOH Section Officers for the coming term are confirmed by the alPHA BOH Section Executive Committee prior to presentation to the alPHA Membership as their nominees to the alPHA Board of Directors.

Affiliate Organizations: Each has its own process to determine alPHA Board of Directors representation. Representatives must be non-union senior managers, and mid-term replacements are common in cases where the annual cycles are different from alPHA's.

The alPHA Chair and Vice Chair positions alternate annually between the alPHA COMOH Section and alPHA Boards of Health Section. In 2026-27, the alPHA Chair and Treasurer positions will be held by BOH Section members, and the alPHA Vice Chair and Past Chair positions will be held by COMOH Section members. This ensures the alPHA Executive Committee comprises three alPHA BOH Section representatives, three alPHA COMOH Section representatives, and one Affiliate representative.

Incoming alPHA Boards of Health Section Executive Committee (Following Election on May 6, 2026).

2026 – 2027 BOH Executive Committee / Position Nominations		
Central East / BOH Section Chair	Ann-Marie Kungl	<i>SECOND YEAR OF TWO-YEAR TERM / BOH EXECUTIVE NOMINEE</i>
South West	Carmen McGregor	<i>ELECTED TO TWO-YEAR TERM BY BOH SECTION MAY 6/ PER alPHA GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW</i>
North East/BOH Section Vice Chair	Sue Perras	<i>SECOND YEAR OF TWO-YEAR TERM / BOH EXECUTIVE NOMINEE</i>
North West	Trudy Sachowski	<i>SECOND YEAR OF TWO-YEAR TERM / BOH EXECUTIVE NOMINEE</i>
East	Conny Glenn	<i>ELECTED TO TWO-YEAR TERM BY BOH SECTION MAY 6/ PER alPHA GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW</i>
Toronto	Charles Ozzoude	<i>SECOND YEAR OF TWO-YEAR TERM</i>
Central West	TBD	<i>TBD BY BOH SECTION EXECUTIVE PER alPHA GENERAL OPERATING BY-LAW</i>

Incoming COMOH Section Executive Committee (Endorsed by the COMOH Section on March 25, 2026).

2026 – 2027 COMOH Executive Committee		
East – Chair	Dr. Trevor Arnason	<i>PER COMOH TERMS OF REFERENCE / MUTUAL AGREEMENT (See note below)</i>
South West	Dr. Ninh Tran	<i>PER COMOH TERMS OF REFERENCE</i>
Central East – Past Chair	Dr. Pepi McTavish	<i>PER COMOH TERMS OF REFERENCE</i>
alPHA Past Chair **	Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang	<i>EX OFFICIO; PER COMOH TERMS OF REFERENCE</i>
Toronto	Dr. Michelle Murti	<i>TORONTO COMOH MEMBERS NOMINEE</i>
Central West	Dr. Azim Kasmani	<i>CENTRAL WEST REGION COMOH MEMBERS NOMINEE</i>
North	Dr. Kit Young Hoon	<i>PER COMOH TERMS OF REFERENCE</i>

Table 3: Regional Rotation of the alPHA COMOH Section Chair/Vice Chair (Please note that although 9 former health units merged into 4 as of January 1, 2025, the regions themselves have not changed. Merged health units are reflected in the table below).

Regional Rotation of the alpha COMOH Section Chair/Vice Chair

Chair 2025-26*	Central East: Durham, Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland and Peterborough (<i>formerly HKPR, Peterborough</i>), Peel, Simcoe-Muskoka, York.
Vice Chair 2024-26 / Chair 2026-27*	East: Eastern, Ottawa Renfrew, South East (<i>formerly Hastings-Prince-Edward, KFL&A, Leeds-Grenville</i>).
Vice Chair 2026-27 / Chair 2027-28	South West: Chatham-Kent, Grey Bruce, Huron Perth, Lambton, Middlesex-London, Southwestern, Windsor-Essex.
Vice Chair 2027-28/ Chair 2028-29	Toronto
Vice Chair 2028-29 / Chair 2029-30	Central West: Grand Erie (<i>formerly Brant, Haldimand-Norfolk</i>), Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Waterloo; Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph.
Vice Chair 2029-30 / Chair 2030-31	North: Algoma, North Bay Parry Sound, Northeastern (<i>formerly Porcupine & Timiskaming</i>), Northwestern; Sudbury; Thunder Bay.

*At the outset of the 2024-2025 term, the East Region representative was confirmed as Vice Chair per the regional rotation, and as such was in line for the 2025-26 Chair. Due to their mid-term departure and replacement, a mutual agreement was reached between the new East Region rep and the existing Central East rep that they would swap spots in the rotation to ensure experience and continuity.

** As COMOH has only 6 regions, the 7th member of the Executive Committee is the COMOH member who is serving as alpha Chair or Past Chair (alternating years). This individual does not represent their region and serves as an ex officio member. The nomination is confirmed by the alpha Board of Directors at its first meeting following the alpha AGM.



Association of Local
PUBLIC HEALTH
Agencies

**alPHa Board of Directors Record of Attendance
2025-2026**

Designation	Director	Region/Organization	# of Meetings Attended (of seven)
BOH Section	Tammy DeGiovanni	East Region	6
BOH Section	Bernia Martin	South West Region	7
BOH Section	Trudy Sachowski	North West Region	7
BOH Section	John Bell (from Nov. 2025)	Central West Region	4
BOH Section	Ann-Marie Kungl	Central East Region	6
BOH Section	Sue Perras	North East Region	6
BOH Section	Charles Ozzoude	Toronto	5
COMOH Section	Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang	alPHa Chair, Ex Officio	7
COMOH Section	Dr. Lianne Catton ** (replaced by Dr. Kit Young Hoon)	North Region	3
COMOH Section	Dr. Kit Young Hoon (replaced Dr. Lianne Catton in Feb. 2026)	North Region	2
COMOH Section	Dr. Pepi McTavish	Central East Region	4
COMOH Section	Dr. Na-Koshie Lamptey ** (replaced by Dr. Michelle Murti in Sept. 2025)	Toronto	2
COMOH Section	Dr. Michelle Murti (replaced Dr. Na-Koshie Lamptey)	Toronto	4
COMOH Section	Dr. Ninh Tran	South West Region	6
COMOH Section	Dr. Azim Kasmani	Central West Region	7
COMOH Section	Dr. Trevor Arnason	East Region	7
Affiliate	Cynthia St. John	AOPHBA	5
Affiliate	Caitlyn Paget	APHEO	6
Affiliate	Paul Sharma	OAPHD	4
Affiliate	Susan Stewart ** (replaced by Shannon Robinson in June 2025)	HPO	1
Affiliate	Shannon Robinson ** (replaced Susan Stewart in June 2025)	HPO	6
Affiliate	Joanne Figliano-Scott	OPHNL	6
Affiliate	Steven Rebellato ** (replaced by Heidi Pitfield in Jan. 2026)	ASPPIO	4
Affiliate	Heidi Pitfield (replaced Steven Rebellato)	ASPPIO	3
Affiliate	Carolyn Doris	ODPH	6

* Includes seven meetings of the 2025-2026 alPHa cycle, i.e. June 19, 2025; September 11, 2025; September 12, 2025; November 6, 2025; February 12, 2026, April 17, 2026, and May 29, 2026.

**Appointed mid-term



Strategic Plan

2024 - 2027

Convening the leadership of local public health agencies to:



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



Deliver member services to local public health leaders



alpha's Mission: Serving Ontario's local public health agencies for a strong public health system

Association of Local Public Health Agencies
PO Box 73510, RPO Wychwood
Toronto, ON M6C 4A7
(416) 595-0006 | info@alphaweb.org | www.alphaweb.org
Follow us on X (formerly Twitter) [@PHAgencies](https://twitter.com/PHAgencies)