

# 2024 Winter Symposium

## Section Meetings and Workshops

FEBRUARY 14 -16, 2024

alPHa

Association of Local  
**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
Agencies

**Continue the important conversations on Ontario's local public health system's critical role, value, and benefit.**

**Wednesday February 14**

### [Building Climate Resilient Health Systems Workshop](#)

- Dr. Jennifer Loo is a public health and preventive medicine specialist, currently practicing in Sault Ste. Marie as the Medical Officer of Health and CEO at Algoma Public Health, a local public health unit serving 113,000 people across 21 municipalities, on the traditional land of eight First Nation communities in northern Ontario. She has a longstanding interest in environment and health, with a Masters of Science in Public Health – Environment & Health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and has published several peer-reviewed papers related to the built environment. Dr. Loo is an Assistant Professor with NOSM University's Public Health and Preventive Medicine Program, and also holds Adjunct Lecturer status at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, her alma mater.
- Aldo Franco is the Director of Health Protection & Investigation with Region of Waterloo Public Health. He started with the Region of Waterloo Public Health as a Manager in 2015, prior to that spent time in the private sector as Director of Food Safety for one of Canada's largest grocery chains. He earned his Masters of Business Administration with the University of Roehampton, from London, England in 2016 and Bachelor of Applied Science from Toronto Metropolitan University in 1993. Aldo was a member of the Executive of the Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario (ASPHIO) as Chair then Past-Chair from 2019 to 2022.
- Carolyn Tateishi is the Director of the Climate Change and Innovation Bureau within the Healthy Environments and Consumer Safety Branch (HECSB) at Health Canada. At HECSB, she led the establishment of the Bureau in 2015 and its subsequent expansion. In this position, she is responsible for leading the development and delivery of policies and programs to protect the health of Canadians from the impacts of climate change and increase the climate-resiliency in the health sector, and is the federal government lead for the Health and Wellbeing system of the National Adaptation Strategy. Carolyn is also currently the Co-Chair of the Climate Resilient Health Systems Working Group of the World Health Organization's Alliance for Transformative Action on Climate and Health (ATACH), and a member of the UHC2030 Task Team.

- Dr. Peter Berry, with over two decades at Health Canada's Climate Change and Innovation Bureau, specializes in the intersection of climate change and health. His expertise spans research and communication on health risks, adaptive strategies, and the resilience of health systems. Currently, he is a Senior Policy Analyst and Science Advisor, and also serves as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Waterloo, teaching a course on climate-resilient health systems. Peter, who earned his doctorate in International Relations from the University of Toronto, has contributed to a number of national and international collaborations aimed at reducing climate-related health risks including with the World Health Organization and Pan-American Health Organization. He is an editor for Health Canada's upcoming national climate and health assessment and is participating in a number of research projects, including one on challenges and opportunities to scaling up adaptation efforts among health authorities in Canada.
- Dr. Sarah Henderson is the Scientific Director of Environmental Health Services at the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) and the Scientific Director of the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health (NCCEH). She is also an associate professor at the UBC School of Population and Public Health. Dr. Henderson oversees a broad program of applied research, surveillance, and knowledge translation to support evidence-based environmental health policy and practice in BC and across Canada. She has been studying the population health effects of climate change for more than 20 years.
- Dr. Na-Koshie Lamptey is a Deputy Medical Officer of Health at the City of Toronto. Dr. Lamptey obtained her medical degree at the University of Toronto, as well as degrees in Epidemiology and Public Health Management from Yale and a Bachelor of liberal arts from Princeton University. Prior to her current role in Toronto, she has held positions as a Regional Medical Officer of Health in New Brunswick and Associate Medical Officer of Health at the Sudbury & District Health Unit. Dr. Lamptey is a public health and preventive medicine physician committed to improving population health through clinical care, policy development and system advocacy.”
- Ali Sunderji is currently the Acting Manager of the Environmental Health Policy and Programs Unit in the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health (OCMOH,PH). Ali has worked in the OCMOH,PH for over 13 years and has worked on a number of public health portfolios including Healthy Smiles Ontario (HSO), the Universal Influenza Immunization Program (UIIP), the International Agricultural Workers (IAW) Housing Accommodations, and most recently on the Extreme Heat and Climate Change Portfolios. He holds a B.A. from the University of Guelph and a Master of Information Studies (MIS) from the University of Toronto.
- Dr. Charles Gardner has been the Medical Officer of Health (MOH) for the Simcoe Muskoka Health Unit since 2005. Dr. Gardner is the current President of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) Board, and an Ex Officio Member of the Executive of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH). In June 2023 he received ALPHA's Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Gardner received the Faculty Educator Award for the Public Health and Preventive Medicine Residency, University of Toronto, in 2020. He is also a board member of Physicians for a Smoke-Free Canada. Dr. Gardner is active personally and professionally on the promotion of health through green, compact, complete, walkable and cycleable communities.
- Louise Aubin is the Director, Health Protection for Peel Public Health. Her current responsibilities include food and water safety programs, health hazard investigations, infection prevention and control inspections in defined settings, the prevention and management of vector borne diseases and tobacco control. She has experience in the built form and public health, climate change adaptation, and other local environmental health issues such as air quality. She holds a Master's degree in environmental studies from York University and a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from the University of Toronto.

- Dr. Steven Rebellato is the Vice President for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. He has his PhD in Public Health from the University of Waterloo. Steven is a part-time Assistant Professor at McMaster University in the Department of Health Research Methods, Evidence, & Impact and Adjunct Professor at the University of Waterloo. Steven is a Fellow at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health in the AMS-Fitzgerald Fellowship in Artificial Intelligence and Human-Centered Leadership. He is the Vice-Chair for the York Hills Centre for Children, Youth and Families in the Region of York.
- Loretta Ryan is the Executive Director of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies. In this role, she works closely with board of health members, medical and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers to represent the interests of local public health and to collaborate with governments and other health organizations to advocate for healthy public policy and a strong, effective, and efficient public health system in Ontario. Previously, Loretta was the Director of Public Affairs for the Ontario Professional Planners Institute where she provided leadership in the development and delivery of the Institute's public policy and communication efforts and the Institute's Healthy Communities, Sustainable Communities initiative. Prior to working there, Loretta was with the Toronto Board of Trade and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Loretta is a Certified Association Executive (CAE).