



alPHa Fall Symposium

Friday, November 7, 2025 – Draft as of October 22nd

Note: Meeting is hosted via Zoom Webinar

8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. - All times are Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement Speaker: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa Welcoming Remarks Speakers: Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Robin Jones, President, Association of Municipalities of Ontario	8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
Humanizing Care: The Clinical Value of Storytelling in Mental Health and Addictions Speaker: Chris Cull, Founder, Inspire By Example Moderator: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa Canadian filmmaker and advocate Chris Cull shares his personal journey of overcoming opioid addiction and cycling across Canada—twice—to raise awareness about substance use and recovery. Through a unique lens of lived and professional experience, Chris explores the transformative power of storytelling as a tool to foster emotional connection, reduce stigma, and inspire hope in both clinical settings and broader communities.	8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Update from Public Health Ontario (PHO) Speakers: Michael Sherar, President and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Ontario Dr. Tamara Wallington, Vice President and Chief, Population Health, PHO Nicole Visschedyk, Director, Indigenous Strategy and Engagement, PHO Marnie MacKinnon, Director, Quality Improvement, PHO Dr. Sarah Wilson, Deputy Chief, Medical and Systems Support, Communicable Disease Control, PHO Moderator: Tammy DeGiovanni, BOH Section Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa PHO leaders will share updates on PHO's Indigenous Strategy work, Quality Improvement	9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

(QI) initiatives, and an overview of the recent measles outbreak.	
Morning Break The morning break features videos from the Symposium Co-Host, Southwestern Public Health	10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
From Silos to Synergy: How Local Public Health is Collaborating with Ontario Health Teams Speakers: Dr. Kit Young Hoon, Medical Officer of Health, Northwestern Health Unit Dr. Piotr Oglaza, Medical Officer of Health, South East Health Unit Nicole Britten, Manager, Strategic Policy & Projects, Peel Public Health Moderator: Paul Sharma, Affiliate Representative, Board of Directors, alPHa Join us for an engaging session featuring three local public health agencies that are actively partnering with Ontario Health Teams. Learn how these collaborations are helping to integrate public health into the broader health system, strengthen its role across the continuum of care, and ensure community health priorities are reflected in system planning and delivery.	10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
alPHa Update Speaker: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa alPHa provides leadership to all of Ontario’s boards of health, medical officers and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers. As local public health leaders, alPHa advises and lends expertise to members on the governance, administration, and management of health units. The Association also collaborates with governments and other health organizations, advocating for a strong, effective, and efficient public health system in the province. Through policy analysis, discussion, collaboration, and advocacy, alPHa’s Members and staff act to promote and support local public health. Come and hear about what your association is doing.	11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Update from the Chief of Nursing and Professional Practice and Assistant Deputy Minister Speaker: Dr. Karima Velji, Chief of Nursing and Professional Practice and Assistant Deputy Minister Moderator: Trudy Sachowski, Past Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa	11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Lunch Break	12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Public Health Speaker: Steven Rebellato, Board of Directors, alPHa Moderator: Cynthia St. John, Affiliate Representative, Board of Directors, alPHa As a follow up to the Fall 2024, workshop, and the presentation at the Boards of Health Section’s June 2025 meeting, attendees will be provided with updates on the latest developments in AI and implementation being considered and used in practice in public health units.	1:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Legally Speaking – alPHa’s Legal Counsel in Conversation with alPHa Members Speakers: Amy Dale, Partner, Harrison Pensa, LLP and James LeNoury, Principal, LeNoury Law and Legal Counsel, alPHa Moderator: Dr. Robert Kyle, Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health, Regional Municipality of Durham Join in on a discussion of key legal issues related to local public health agencies. <i>(Additional information to be added soon.)</i>	2:00 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
Afternoon Break The afternoon break features videos from the Symposium Co-Host, Southwestern Public Health.	2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Update Speakers: Alicia Neufeld, Senior Manager, Policy Daniela Spagnuolo, Policy Advisor, AMO Moderator: Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, alPHa AMO works with Ontario’s 444 municipalities to make municipal governments stronger and more effective. Come and hear the latest from AMO with a focus on their recent work.	3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
Closing Remarks Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa Participants’ Draw – Winner must be present to accept the prize!	3:45 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

This event is co-hosted by alPHa and Southwestern Public Health.



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Program subject to change. Please check the website often for updates.