



***Strengthening Public Health Leadership in a Changing Landscape***

**Preliminary Program**

*Draft as of April 7, 2026*

**June 8: Mobile Workshop 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT**

**Opening Reception 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. EDT**

**June 9: AGM & Conference 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EDT**

**June 10: BOH Section & COMOH Section Meetings 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. EDT**

Radisson Blu, Toronto Downtown

249 Queens Quay W, Toronto, ON M5J 2N5

<b>June 8</b>	
<p>Join us for an engaging mobile workshop along Toronto’s iconic waterfront where participants will explore how the built environment shapes the health and well-being of our communities. Participants will experience vibrant public spaces, innovative urban planning, and the evolving relationship between the City of Toronto and Lake Ontario. This interactive walking tour will feature HTO Park, the Music Garden, and Harbourfront, highlighting how these public spaces contribute to vibrant, inclusive, and resilient communities.</p> <p>Workshop Leaders:          Hon Lu, Senior Project Manager, Toronto Region Conservation Authority          Dan Nicholson, Manager, Community Planning, City of Toronto          Raconteur: Dr. Charles Gardner, COMOH Emeritus Member and longstanding built environment enthusiast!</p> <p><i>Numbers are limited and all participants must be registered. The mobile workshop will take place rain or shine. The workshop will begin and end at the Radisson Blu.</i></p>	2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

<p><b>Opening Reception</b>  You are cordially invited to join colleagues both familiar and new for a reception at the Radisson Blu Toronto Downtown, featuring spectacular views of the Toronto waterfront. The evening will include a cash bar and light refreshments. New for this year, GenWell’s Founder, Pete Bombaci will be facilitating opportunities to connect and reconnect with colleagues and special guests.</p>	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
<p><b>June 9</b></p>	
<p><b><i>Breakfast will be available from 7:30 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.</i></b></p>	
<p><b>Connection before Content</b>  We will start the day with Claudia Valle from Leaders for Leaders, and before we dive into the morning agenda, we will take a few minutes to connect and chat with each other — because the best conversations start with genuine connection.</p>	8:00 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.
<p><b>Call to Order, Remarks, and Land Acknowledgement</b>  Speakers: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa</p> <p><b>Welcoming Remarks</b>  Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario (<i>invited</i>)  Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health (<i>invited</i>)  Dr. Rebecca Hicks, President, Ontario Medical Association  Doug Lawrance, Chair, Northwestern Health Unit Board of Health</p> <p>The conference will open with a call to order, land acknowledgement, and welcoming remarks, setting the stage for the important conversations and collaboration ahead.</p>	8:15 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
<p><b>Advancing Public Health Through Métis Leadership and Partnership in Ontario</b>  Speaker: Margaret Froh, President of the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)</p> <p>Margaret Froh will discuss the role of Métis leadership in advancing health equity and strengthening Ontario’s local public health system. The session will highlight MNO’s community-driven health initiatives, including the Chronic Disease Surveillance Program conducted with ICES, which has identified higher rates of chronic diseases among Métis people in Ontario. It will also explore opportunities for collaboration between the MNO and Ontario’s public health system to support the health and well-being of Métis communities.</p>	8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

<p><b>Projected Patterns of Illness in Ontario</b>  Speaker: Adalsteinn Brown, Dean, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and Dr. Na-Koshie Lamptey, Deputy Chief, Medical and Scientific Support, Population Health, Public Health Ontario  Moderator: Dr. Kit Young Hoon, Board of Directors, alPHa</p> <p>Conducted in collaboration with the Ontario Hospital Association (OHA), the Dalla Lana School of Public Health recently released a study on the <u><i>Projected Patterns of Illness in Ontario</i></u>. The study examines the future burden of illness across the province and its implications for the health system. Region-specific data highlights the growing impact of chronic disease and multimorbidity and underscores the importance of targeted prevention and chronic disease management. These findings provide an important lens for system planning over the next two decades, including the need for a sustainable local public health system.</p>	<p>9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Morning Break</b>  Network, connect, reconnect, and engage with colleagues as you enjoy refreshments in the foyer.</p>	<p>10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Combined alPHa Business Meeting and Resolutions Session</b>  Speakers: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa, and Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, alPHa  Resolutions Chair and Parliamentarian: Dr. Robert Kyle, Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health, Durham Region Health Department</p> <p>This session will include the Association’s annual business meeting and consideration of Resolutions submitted by members. Resolutions provide a mechanism for boards of health and public health leaders to identify emerging issues, establish policy positions, and guide alPHa’s public policy positions on matters affecting Ontario’s public health system. Members will review and vote on submitted Resolutions, which help shape the association’s priorities and inform alPHa’s engagement with provincial and municipal partners and decision-makers.</p> <p><b>Final Reflection Activity</b>  At the end of the session, we will take a moment to reflect and re-set for the afternoon, with Claudia Valle from Leaders for Leaders.</p>	<p>10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.</p>

<p><b>Distinguished Service Awards and Board Recognition Luncheon Celebrating Leadership in Ontario Public Health</b> Speakers: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa, and Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, alPHa</p> <p>The Distinguished Service Award (DSA) is given by alPHa to individuals in recognition of their outstanding contributions to public health in Ontario by board of health members, health unit staff, and public health professionals. The Award is given to those individuals who have demonstrated exceptional qualities of leadership in their own milieu, achieved tangible results through long service or distinctive acts, and shown exemplary devotion to public health.</p> <p>alPHa will also recognize members of the Board of Directors whose leadership and service have strengthened the association and Ontario’s local public health system.</p>	<p>12:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Navigating Ontario’s Political Landscape in Increasingly Challenging Times</b> Speaker: Sabine Matheson, Principal, StrategyCorp Moderator: Bernia Martin, Vice Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa</p> <p>Back by popular demand! We live in an increasingly uncertain world. The political landscape continues to change. Hear about what to expect regarding the public policy climate and key political issues impacting public health agencies and their local boards of health.</p>	<p>1:45 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Public Health Funding: What’s on the Horizon</b> Speakers: Cynthia St. John, Affiliate Representative, Board of Directors, alPHa, and Marilyn Herbacz, CEO, Northwestern Health Unit</p> <p>As Ontario’s public health system continues to evolve, the funding landscape is shifting in ways that will shape local capacity, partnerships, and long-term sustainability. This session offers a forward-looking exploration of what may be ahead, acknowledging both the challenges and the opportunities emerging on the horizon. Cynthia St. John and Marilyn Herbacz will share insights on navigating uncertainty with clarity and collaboration, inviting participants to reflect on how we prepare—collectively and strategically—for the future of public health funding.</p>	<p>2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Afternoon Break</b> <b>Enjoy refreshments while networking with colleagues and continuing the day’s conversations.</b></p>	<p>3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>Update from the Chief Medical Officer of Health</b> Speaker: Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health Moderator: Dr. Pepi McTavish, COMO Health Section Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa</p> <p>Dr. Kieran Moore, Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health, will provide an</p>	<p>3:30 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.</p>

<p>update on current priorities, emerging public health issues, and key provincial initiatives impacting local public health agencies.</p>	
<p><b>Closing Remarks, Door Prize and Adjournment</b>  Speakers: Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Chair, Board of Directors, alPHa, and Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer, alPHa</p>	<p>4:25 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.</p>
<p><b>June 10</b></p>	
<p><b><i>Breakfast will be available starting at 8:00 a.m.</i></b></p> <p><b>Section Meetings:</b> <i>Members of the alPHa BOH Section and Affiliates and alPHa COMOH Section will meet in the morning. There are separate agendas for these meetings.</i></p>	<p>9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</p>

This event is co-hosted by alPHa and Northwestern Health Unit

**alPHa**

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