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the public health units
in Ontario.

alPHA Sections:

Boards of Health
Section

Council of Ontario
Medical Officers of
Health (COMOH)

**Affiliate
Organizations:**

Association of Ontario
Public Health Business
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Association of
Public Health
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in Ontario

Association of
Supervisors of Public
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Health Promotion
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Public Health Dentistry

Ontario Association of
Public Health Nursing
Leaders

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July 26, 2019

Hon. Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
10th Flr, 80 Grosvenor St,
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Elliott,

Re: alPHA RESOLUTION A19-11, Public Health Funding to Support Healthy Weights and Prevention of Childhood Obesity

On behalf of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) and its member Medical Officers of Health, Boards of Health and Affiliate organizations, I am writing today to inform you of the attached resolution, which was passed by our membership at its recent Annual General Meeting.

alPHA RESOLUTION A19-11, *Public Health Funding to Support Healthy Weights and Prevention of Childhood Obesity* calls upon your Ministry to ensure a sustained financial commitment to preserving local capacity for childhood overweight and obesity prevention efforts in all Ontario communities.

The aim of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge referred to in this resolution was to promote multi-sectoral work to implement activities at the local level to promote healthy behaviours for children and youth. This aim was based on evidence that co-ordinated, community driven approaches to developing healthy communities yielded demonstrable results in reducing overweight and obesity in children, and the observation that high-level political commitment was a foundation of these approaches.

We believe that the elements of this program should be preserved as they have already demonstrated their potential for equipping Ontario's communities, families and children with the kind of health literacy that is required not only to promote healthy behaviours, but also to defend them against the strong and constant societal challenges to making healthy choices.

We hope that you will take this resolution into careful consideration and we look forward to discussing it with you further. To schedule a meeting, please have your staff contact Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHA, at loretta@alphaweb.org or 647-325-9594.

Yours sincerely,



Carmen McGregor
alPHA President

COPY: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

TITLE: **Public Health Funding to Support Healthy Weights and Prevention of Childhood Obesity**

SPONSOR: **Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit**

WHEREAS almost 30% of Ontario Children are overweight or obese; and

WHEREAS children and youth who are overweight or obese are more likely to become obese adults; and

WHEREAS children who are obese also have a higher risk of chronic disease and premature death as adults; and

WHEREAS previous funding through the Healthy Kids Community Challenge provided 45 communities with the ability to hire a local project manager as part of an evidence-based EPODE model and best practice in childhood overweight and obesity prevention; and

WHEREAS local project managers can enhance community capacity to plan, implement and evaluate sustainable local health interventions; and

WHEREAS the function of local project managers works to assist in facilitating community collaboration and coordination of community programming through multi-sectoral partnerships; and

WHEREAS the Healthy Kids Community Challenge has concluded and the subsequent role and funding of local project managers no longer exists;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) call upon the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to ensure a sustained financial commitment to the Healthy Kids Panel's recommendations involving all Ontario health units to support childhood overweight and obesity prevention efforts in all Ontario communities.

ACTION FROM CONFERENCE: Carried as amended