
South East Health Unit

formerly



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

INFORMATION ITEMS

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

Hastings Prince Edward Public Health
179 North Park St.
Belleville, Ontario K8P 4P1
613-966-5500 | 1-800-267-2803
Fax: 613-966-9418

**Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox
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District Health Unit**
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Listing of Information Items Board of Health Meeting – July 23, 2025

1. Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit – Letter to Premier Doug Ford et al re preventing Intimate Partner and Gender-Based Violence (Bill 173) dated July 2, 2025
2. Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHa) – June InfoBreak ~ AMO AGM and Conference– August 17 to 20, 2025 in Ottawa

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July 2, 2025

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
premier@ontario.ca

Hon. Sylvia Jones
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Hon. Michael Parsa
Minister of Children, Community and Social Services
MinisterMCCSS@ontario.ca

Dear Premier Ford, Ministers Jones and Parsa:

Re: Preventing Intimate Partner and Gender-Based Violence

We urge the Government of Ontario to immediately revive and pass [Bill 173, An Act respecting intimate partner violence](#), to formally recognize intimate partner violence as an epidemic and strengthen provincial efforts to prevent violence and support survivors.

This request follows a decision passed at the June 18, 2025 meeting of the Board of Health for Haliburton Kawartha Northumberland Peterborough Health Unit, who considered and endorsed the enclosed correspondence from the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit (WECHU) Board of Health regarding the need to advance local and provincial action preventing and reducing Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)/Gender-Based Violence (GBV) through legislative action.

We recognize that you are well aware of the seriousness of IPV, which is associated with significant negative impacts on social functioning, mental health, and physical health for both survivors and their children. Your commitment is evident through the measures you have already implemented to address this critical issue such as through, the 2024 decision to ask the Standing Committee on Justice Policy to conduct an in-depth study with respect to IPV, the [Ontario-STANDS: Standing Together Against gender-based violence Now through Decisive actions, prevention, empowerment and Supports](#) and Ontario's strategy to respond to the [Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls; Pathways to Safety](#). A declaration of an epidemic would support these existing efforts by providing ongoing sustainable legislative backing.



As a local public health agency, we are engaged in the work of IPV/GBV and family violence by addressing healthy child growth and development in accordance with the Ontario Public Health Standards: Healthy Growth and Development and Substance Use and Injury Prevention standards along with the Health Equity foundational standard. Locally, IPV/GBV was declared an epidemic by the City of Peterborough (November 27, 2023), the City of Kawartha Lakes (June 25, 2024) and Haliburton County Council (December 11, 2024). A recent Peterborough City and County Public Perceptions and Paths to Prevention Survey, conducted by Trent University in partnership with the Peterborough Domestic Abuse Network (PDAN), asked 199 participants whether they agreed with labeling domestic violence (IPV) as an epidemic. An overwhelming 95% either strongly or somewhat agreed.¹ This powerful consensus signals that communities in the region we serve are not only aware of the severity of IPV but are also ready for decisive action. Ending GBV requires our provincial government's commitment. Reviving Bill 173 would legislate provincial recognition of IPV as a public health crisis throughout Ontario.

I trust you will consider our efforts, along with WECHU and the advocacy of others, who continue to voice their support to invest in and implement a meaningful and sustained provincial response to IPV and GBV which are complex issues intersecting multiple provincial priorities.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Deputy Mayor Ron Black
Chair, Board of Health

/ag

Enclosure: [WECHU Resolution, December 2024](#)

cc: Local MPPs
Ontario Boards of Health
Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA)

¹ Ambury, B. (2025). Understanding the domestic violence epidemic: Public perceptions and paths to prevention in Peterborough City and County (Community-Based Research Project, Trent University). Peterborough Domestic Abuse Network.

June 20, 2025



June 2025 InfoBreak

This update is a tool to keep alPHA's Members apprised of the latest news in public health including provincial announcements, legislation, alPHA activities, correspondence, and events. Visit us at alphaweb.org.

Excerpt from the Annual Report - Chair and Chief Executive Officer Report



Over the past year, alPHA remained nimble and strong as the unified voice and trusted advisor on Ontario's local public health system, advancing this work through strategic partnerships, supporting sustainability, and delivering member services to local public health leaders.

The alPHA Board of Directors, Boards of Health Section, Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health Section, and Affiliate Representatives participated, throughout the past year, in various committees, consultations, and at public health tables providing recommendations and advice on the province's Strengthening Public Health initiative, including the Ontario Public Health Standards which are expected to be released in August 2025.

alPHA celebrates the milestones achieved throughout the year such as the highly successful Fall and Winter Symposiums with Section meetings, and several workshops that supported alPHA Members in their respective roles and in the important conversations on the critical role of local public health in Ontario's public health system. These actions included meeting and exceeding targets in the first year of the alPHA Strategic Plan, a strong government relations program, effective participation in Ontario's 2025 Pre-Budget Consultations before the Standing Committee on Finance, and other submissions on key public health issues such as Homeless and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hubs and the Auditor General's report. alPHA has provided keynotes, presentations, and representation at provincial conferences and events such as at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Conference and its Health Transformation Task Force, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference, and The Ontario Public Health Conference (TOPHC), and others. Additionally, there has been a significant uptake in delivery and requests for presentations such as alPHA's modules on Board of Health Governance and the Social Determinants of Health, a key service offered to alPHA's Members.

This year's developments in the alPHA *Public Health Matters* series of infographics and videos, available in English and French, are excellent and sharable resources for our Members. alPHA's Members' portal – *InfoBreak* – alPHA's monthly newsletter also keeps Members apprised of key submissions, events, activities and opportunities for consultation. Through these and other actions, alPHA continues to provide valued resources and services to its Member Representatives in Ontario's local public health units.

Following the approval of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (Ontario) Operating By-law No. 2, to ensure compliance with Ontario's Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, as part of their governance responsibilities, the alPHA Board of Directors reviewed and approved alPHA's policies and procedures to align with the By-law and the associated legislation.

alPHA continues to advance local public health through strategic partnerships and collaborations with successful reciprocal relationships. It is an extensive list and includes Ontario's key decision-makers such as the Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, and the Hon. Sylvia Jones, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, who following their in-person appearances at the June 2024 Conference, participated again in alPHA's online Fall Symposium. alPHA continually liaises with Dr. Kieran Moore, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and his staff, the Ministry of Health, Public Health Ontario (PHO), the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), and others. In addition, through the Affiliate members on the alPHA Board of Directors, alPHA works effectively with associations that represent Ontario's key public health disciplines. Most of all, alPHA celebrates the importance of the existing network of relationships with all of Ontario's local public health agencies. Our work done in collaboration with key partners and within the broader health system results in an upstream approach for a healthier population that contributes to a stronger economy while preserving costly and scarce health care resources.

Looking ahead the view is clear. alPHA, guided by the Strategic Plan, will continue to lead with one unified voice representing its Member constituents in its commitment to influence Ontario's decision-makers to ensure a robust local public health system with ample resources to protect the health of the population.

The success of alPHA is built not only on your support - it also requires a dedicated governance board, complemented by the tremendous work and services provided by alPHA staff. The alPHA Board of Directors continues to give the association a uniquely qualified and unified leadership voice for Ontario's local public health system. alPHA is fortunate to have Board members who so readily volunteer and

are passionate about public health. Thank you to each and everyone of the members of the 2024-2025 Board of Directors and the dedicated alPHa staff team.

Whether you are a Board of Health member, a Medical Officer of Health, an Associate Medical Officer of Health, a Chief Executive Officer, or in a senior leadership role, alPHa extends genuine appreciation to you for your valuable contributions to local public health and continued participation in and support for alPHa as it is vital to our shared success in advocating for and in strengthening Ontario's unique, locally based public health system. alPHa as your collective voice, is committed to continuing to work towards advancing the cause of a resilient and sufficiently resourced local public health system.

Sincerely,

Trudy Sachowski, Chair, and Loretta Ryan, Chief Executive Officer

2025 alPHa Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference recap



The 2025 alPHA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Conference was held in Toronto this week and was a great success! The events were sold out and we want to thank all the Members who participated in the workshops, AGM, Conference sessions, and Section Meetings.

Conference materials are available on [the website](#), including the Annual Report, Distinguished Service Awards booklet, and other materials. We will add any presentations to the website as these become available. These will also be featured in the summer issue of *InfoBreak*.

We want to thank [Toronto Public Health \(TPH\)](#) for being the event's co-host. Their event support was greatly appreciated. alPHA would also like to thank [Vocalmeet](#) and [NaloxOne](#) for being Platinum Sponsors, [Esri Canada](#) for being a Gold Sponsor, and [Mosey & Mosey](#) and [BrokerLink](#) for being Silver Sponsors!



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With support from BrokerLink.



**2025 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
Conference Resources**



In August, many alPHA members, particularly from the Boards of Health Section, will be attending AMO's 2025 Annual General Meeting and Conference, taking place from August 17-20, in Ottawa. Whether you're an alPHA member attending the conference or participating in a delegation, key resources you can use are below.

These are alPHA products and submissions that support an adequate, predictable, and sustainable funding envelope for public health programs and services. More can be found in our extensive online [correspondence library](#) and [Resolutions](#) pages.

- [alPHA Letter - 2025 Budget - May 23, 2025](#)
- [alPHA Letter - PH Matters Infographic #4 - January 28, 2025](#)
- [alPHA Submission - 2025 Ontario Budget - January 20, 2025](#)
- [alPHA Deputation Pre-Budget 2025 - December 16, 2024](#)
- [alPHA Letter - OPHS Review Follow-Up - June 25, 2024](#)
- [alPHA Response - 2024 OPHS Review Consultation - June 20, 2024](#)
- [alPHA Letter - 2024 Ontario Budget - January 10, 2024](#)

2025 alPHA Workplace Health and Wellness Month recap!



2025 aPHa Workplace Health & Wellness Month

Week 3: Nourish to Flourish



Thank you to everyone who participated in aPHa Workplace Health and Wellness last month! We loved seeing your progress, and we hope you were able to take some time for yourselves to address your mental, physical, and social well-being.

aPHa would like to thank Renfrew County and District Health Unit and Durham Region Public Health for their pictures throughout the month!

For more information, and to continue working on your mental, physical, and social well-being, click [here](#).

Perceptions Among Health Professionals on Adult Vaccination Programs in Canada Survey



A cross-Canada group of investigators are hoping you will be willing to participate in a research study about adult vaccination programs and coverage in Canada. This 15-20 minute survey is designed to gather insights from healthcare and public health professionals on the state of adult immunization in Canada, perceived barriers to improving vaccine uptake, and the potential value of a simplified life-course vaccination schedule. The survey is available in [English](#) and [French](#) and will be available until July 20, 2025. Please feel free to share this survey with colleagues who maybe interested in providing input. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dr. Allison McGeer (Allison.McGeer@sinaihealth.ca; 416-930-1926) at Mount Sinai Hospital.

Calling all Ontario Boards of Health: Level up your expertise with our training courses designed just for you!



Don't miss this unique opportunity to enhance your knowledge and strengthen local public health leadership in Ontario.

BOH Governance training course

Master public health governance and Ontario's Public Health Standards. You'll learn all about public health legislation, funding, accountability, roles, structures, and much more. Gain insights into leadership and services that drive excellence in your unit.

Social Determinants of Health training course

Explore the impact of Social Determinants of Health on public health and municipal governments. Understand the context, explore Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, and examine various SDOH diagrams to better serve your communities.

Reserve your spot for in-person or virtual training now! Visit [our website](#) to learn more about the costs for Public Health Units (PHUs). Let's shape a healthier future together.

Boards of Health: Shared Resources



A resource [page](#) is available on alPHA's website for Board of Health members to facilitate the sharing of and access to information, orientation materials, best practices, case studies, by-laws, Resolutions, and other resources. **In particular, alPHA is seeking resources to share regarding the province's Strengthening Public Health Initiative, including but not limited to, voluntary mergers and the need for long-term funding for local public health.** If you have a best practice, by-law or any other resource that you would like to make available via the newsletter and/or the website, please send a file or a link with a brief description to gordon@alphaweb.org and for posting in the appropriate library.

Resources available on the alPHA website include:

- [Orientation Manual for Boards of Health](#) (Revised Jan. 2024)
- [Review of Board of Health Liability, 2018](#), ([PowerPoint presentation, Feb. 24, 2023](#))
- [Legal Matters: Updates for Boards of Health](#) (Video, June 8, 2021)
- [The Ontario Public Health Standards](#)
- [Public Appointee Role and Governance Overview](#) (for Provincial Appointees to BOH)
- [Ontario Boards of Health by Region](#)

- [Obligations of a Board of Health under the Municipal Act, 2001](#) (Revised 2021)
 - [Governance Toolkit](#) (Revised 2022)
 - [Risk Management for Health Units](#)
 - [Healthy Rural Communities Toolkit](#)
 - [The Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction](#)
 - [List of Units sorted by Municipality](#)
 - [List of Municipalities sorted by Health Unit](#)
 - [Map: Boards of Health Types](#)
 - [NCCHPP Report: Profile of Ontario's Public Health System](#) (2021)
 - [The Municipal Role of Public Health\(2022 U of T Report\)](#)
 - [Boards of Health and Ontario Not-for-Profit Corporations Act](#)
-

alPHA Correspondence



Through policy analysis, collaboration, and advocacy, alPHA's Members and staff act to promote public health policies that form a strong foundation for the improvement of health promotion and protection, disease prevention, and surveillance services in all of Ontario's communities. A complete online library of submissions is available [here](#). These documents are publicly available and can be shared widely.

- [alPHA Letter - Tobacco Settlement Investments](#)
-

Public Health Ontario (PHO)



PHO Launches New Ontario Vector-Borne Disease Tool

PHO's new [Ontario Vector-Borne Disease Tool](#) offers comprehensive surveillance data on vector-borne diseases (VBDs) in Ontario, presenting data from multiple surveillance systems and partners. The Tool consolidates data from several existing PHO resources into a single platform, offering a modern, intuitive experience with enhanced geographic functionality and interactive data visualizations.

Key features and uses of the Tool:

- **Monitor trends:** Track weekly and year-to-date case counts for all reportable vector-borne diseases, including West Nile virus illness, Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, Powassan virus infection, at both the provincial and public health unit levels.
- **Geographic analysis:** Visualize mosquito and tick surveillance data, including species distribution and positive test results, using interactive maps with customizable layers.
- **Risk assessment:** Access interactive Blacklegged Tick established risk area maps, to better support public health professionals and clinicians in their management and case investigations of tick-borne diseases.
- **More frequent updates:** Data are available from 2014 to present. Weekly updates from May through October for human case and mosquito data, will support enhanced surveillance during peak vector activity.

For more detailed information about the tool, explore PHO's [news post](#).

New and Updated Measles Resources

New Resource: Routine and Outbreak-related Measles Immunization Schedules

As Ontario continues to experience a measles outbreak, PHO has released a [new resource](#) which outlines [routine](#) and outbreak-related measles immunization schedules in Ontario and the public health units (PHUs) that have implemented a measles outbreak immunization strategy. It also includes key immunization principles for measles vaccination and a map of PHUs that have adopted the measles outbreak immunization strategy.

Updated: Measles in Ontario

PHO's updated Measles in Ontario report provides the most current trends on measles activity in the province, with a focus on the current multi-jurisdictional outbreak.

Ongoing measles transmission in Ontario is impacting multiple public health units, check out their [measles exposures](#) webpage for more information.

Check out all of PHO's measles resources on their [dedicated webpage](#).

Recent Knowledge Products

- [Mpox in Ontario](#)
- [Clinical Syndromes/Conditions with Required Level of Precautions \(from Best Practices for Routine Practices and Additional Precautions Appendix N\)](#)
- [Staff Influenza Immunization Coverage Among Hospitals and Long-Term Care Homes in Ontario](#)

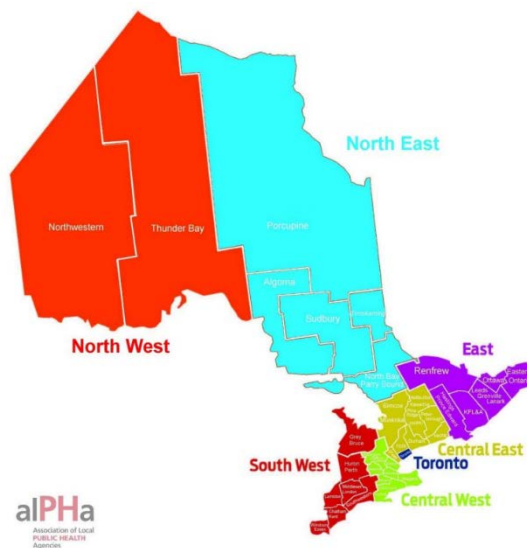
Events

Be sure to keep an eye on PHO's [Events page](#) for their upcoming events.

Recent Presentations

- [PHO Rounds: The SickKids Immunization InfoLine](#)
- [Novel Aesthetic Treatments – Exosomes: What we Know so Far](#)
- [PHO Rounds: Can a Voluntary Isolation Centre Reduce Secondary Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in Households: A Matched Cohort Study](#)
- [PHO Rounds: Anti-Racist Frameworks to Advance Public Health Practice](#)

Ontario Public Health Directory: May 2025 update



ONTARIO PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTORY

The [Ontario Public Health Directory](#) has been updated and is available on the alPHA website. Please ensure you have the latest version, which has been dated as of **May 9, 2025**. To view the file, log into the alPHA website.

Upcoming DLSPH Events and Webinars

Dalla Lana

School of Public Health

- [CanPath Synthetic Dataset Workshop](#) (Jun. 24)
 - [Achieving Greater Cultural Safety in Mental Health Services through Research and Traditional Knowledge](#) (Jun. 25)
 - [LEPH2025: The Seventh International Conference on Law Enforcement and Public Health](#) (Jul. 13-16)
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BrokerLink Insurance



Please note, alPHA's partnership with Aviva is no longer in place. All Members who are with Aviva are encouraged to explore insurance with BrokerLink.

In partnership with alPHA, [BrokerLink](#) is proud to offer preferred home and auto insurance rates for members, [get a quote today](#). With the warmer spring weather, the snow is melting and it's just about that time of year to enjoy all your favourite outdoor activities. Check out our spring maintenance tips to get your recreational toys ready for the summer [here](#).

alPHA's mailing address

Please note our mailing address is: PO Box 73510, RPO Wychwood,
Toronto, ON M6C 4A7

For further information, please contact info@alphaweb.org.