

CHANGE



2013 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

President’s Message 01

2013 Conference 02

Website Working Group 02

Capacity Building for Small, Rural and Northern Health Units 03

Cancer Surveillance for Public Health Working Group (CSPHWG) 03

Core Indicators for Public Health in Ontario Project 04

Performance Management Working Group 06

BORN PH Working Group 07

Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) Report 08

APHEO Membership Report 09

Treasurer’s Report 10

APHEO Annual Statement 11

Executive Committee 12



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In the theme of change from last year's annual report, the public health landscape continued to change in 2013 presenting new challenges and opportunities for APHEO. Through the contributions of its members, APHEO has continued to support excellence in professional practice and promoting the integration of epidemiology within public health decision making in Ontario.

The 2013 APHEO conference was a great success. As opportunities to meet face-to-face and exchange ideas become less common, the exceptional work of the conference committee and the exuberance and interest of the attendees made this an event to remember.

The interest and motivation to address the gaps in evidence on child health spurred the forming of the Child Health Data Working Group. This was a particularly timely development in the wake of the delivery of the Healthy Kids Panel report early in 2013 and the elaboration of many Locally Driven Collaborative Projects among health units. APHEO's other work groups continue their efforts and planning is progressing for the 2014 workshop.

Another change in 2013 was the dissolution of the Ontario Council on Community Health Accreditation (OCCHA). After funding was ended from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, APHEO supported and contributed to the deliberations during the time that OCCHA wound down its operations. The executive position of OCCHA rep continues as an executive without portfolio. This changing landscape highlights the need to revisit APHEO's executive structure to make it more adaptable.

Lack of progress in the proclamation of new not-for-profit corporation legislation has delayed APHEO's work on incorporation, which will also require constitutional changes, but the executive looks forward to this work continuing in 2014.

Reflecting on 2013, although there were many challenges but many of these were opportunities for APHEO to contribute to the benefit of its members. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the 2013 executive for their hard work. The upcoming year will bring new challenges and opportunities for growth and I feel APHEO is well positioned to make the most of these.

Cameron McDermaid
APHEO President 2013

2013 CONFERENCE



The APHEO Conference entitled “Breaking Boundaries in Equity and Accountability” was held at Niagara Falls Hilton June 9-11, 2013 and was very successful. There were approximately 86 attendees including those from across the border, who participated in the 2 day conference. There were 13 abstract presentations and 8 poster presentations. The conference started off with a keynote on data visualization, which applies to our everyday work. The Elaine Hector Student Award for the top student abstract was presented to Naomi Schwartz and Ruth Sanderson was presented with the Terry Delmore Award for her outstanding contributions to the association and epidemiology as a whole.

We were also able to enjoy the Niagara area with a dinner at Peller Estates in the Barrel Cellar, as well as fireworks over the Falls.

Thank you to everyone who participated and made this conference a success and a special thank you to the conference planning committee: Ahalya Mahendra, Alanna Leffley, Sandy Dupuis, Earlyn Etienne, Jannice So, James Macintosh, Elaina Orlando, Marina Stegne and Ryan Waterhouse.

Submitted by Deborah Moore

WEBSITE WORKING GROUP



The APHEO Website Working Group will be a standing-committee that will provide periodic reviews of the association’s presence on the internet and provide recommendations to the APHEO Executive for future innovation as well as assisting in their implementation.

In 2013 the website committee made the decision to abandon custom forum development and pursue a new contract to implement off the shelf forum product endorsed by Executive. Part of this implementation will be the ongoing efforts to develop a new forum that works with the existing listserv to be implemented for all members sometime this year or early next year along with updated website look.

Submitted by Sherri Deamond

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SMALL, RURAL AND NORTHERN HEALTH UNITS



Formed in 2011, this work group was formed to promote collaboration among small, rural and northern Health Units to address some of the challenges and develop solutions in order to comply with the Ontario Public Health Standards. The working group focuses on the areas of population health assessment, surveillance, research and program evaluation.

Key 2013 Identified Priorities:

- Update/refresh Terms of Reference for release early 2014,
- Continue building an Orientation Binder for New Epidemiologists,
- Created an environmental scan document showing members PHU's research and evaluation supports, challenges and solutions,
- Sharing of relevant documents and PHU reports, templates and syntax,
- Discussed challenges with NHS, as well as collaboration/research activities with universities and PHO's LDCPs,
- Ongoing discussion of issues faced by rural and northern epidemiologists such as small sample size calculations.

Chair: Alanna Leffley | **Co-chairs:** Erica Clark, Andrew Kruc | **Members:** Gillian Alton, Susan Boston, Celine Butler, Carolyn Coppens, Nusart Farhana, Brenda Guarda, Dorian Lunny, Lee-Ann Nalezty, Peggy Patterson, Marina Stegne, Sylvia Thompson-Nicholson, Renate van Dorp, Deanna White, Laura Zettler

CANCER SURVEILLANCE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH WORKING GROUP (CSPHWG)



Mandate: To facilitate health unit access to and use of good quality cancer-related data and to establish effective communication between Cancer Care Ontario, Public Health Ontario and Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario. Areas of collaboration include training, accessibility to data and data quality.

2013 Accomplishments:

- CSPHWG welcomed a number of new members to our working group
- Communicated the need for continued access to cancer data (incidence, mortality and screening) to Cancer Care Ontario;
- PHO and CCO, with support from the CSPHWG, established a data sharing agreement for cancer incidence indicators to be included as part of the many PHO data products through centralized analytics services
- Cancer screening data was provided to public health units through the Cancer System Quality Index platform

Established: May 2010 | **Membership:** Anne-Marie Holt, Chair (APHEO), Mary-Anne Pietrusiak (APHEO), Susan Bondy (APHEO), Jeremy Herring (PHO), Elaina MacIntyre (PHO), Beth Theis (CCO), Beth Lowcock (CCO)

CORE INDICATORS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN ONTARIO PROJECT



Purpose: To systematically define and operationalize a core set of health status indicators using, as a framework, an elaboration of the Ontario Public Health Standards. To promote the use of the indicators and encourage public health units and others to adopt the indicators as defined and generate them for their areas.

Sub-Groups: Healthy Eating and Active Living (Lead: Suzanne Fegan); Reproductive Health (Lead: Mary-Anne Pietrusiak); The Built Environment (Lead: Ahalya Mahendra), Social Determinants of Health (Co-leads Jan 2013: Cameron McDermaid and Luanne Jamieson, Lead Feb 2013 onwards: Virginia MacFarland) and Injury and Substance Misuse (Lead: Suzanne Fegan).

2013 Accomplishments:

- On January 17, 2013, Mary-Anne Pietrusiak and Brenda Guarda conducted a PHO Epidemiology Rounds titled APHEO Core Indicators for Public Health in Ontario: Focus on Reproductive Health Core Indicators.
- On April 4, 2013 at The Ontario Public Health Convention, Natalie Greenidge and Brenda Guarda presented a poster titled APHEO Core Indicators for Public Health in Ontario: A Collaborative Approach to Enhancing Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Capacity.
- In June, 2013, Suzanne Fegan and Natalie Greenidge conducted a presentation at APHEO's Conference titled Drinking in excess of the low-risk alcohol guidelines: Core Indicator revision.
- Members of APHEO and the Core Indicators Project provided input and feedback on PHO's report Measuring the Health of Infants, Children and Youth for Public Health in Ontario: Indicators, Gaps and Recommendations for Moving Forward. Released April 2013.
- The Core Indicators Project has been fortunate to have the support of Public Health Ontario. We have partnered with PHO to enhance and improve the Core Indicators Project. In an effort to continue to make headway in areas of mutual benefit, PHO provided the assistance of a contract epidemiologist who was responsible for supporting the development and/or revision of health status indicators and associated resource documents. This work seeks to support the development of Public Health Ontario's Analytic Services in the areas of injury prevention, reproductive health and the built environment.

CORE INDICATORS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH IN ONTARIO PROJECT

2013 Accomplishments (continued):

- The following indicators were revised or newly created and posted to the Core Indicators website (<http://core.apheo.ca/index.php?pid=55>):
 - > Labour Force Indicators
 - > Low Income Rate
 - > Income Inequality/Median Share of Income
 - > Housing Affordability
 - > Education Level
 - > Network Characteristics
 - > Traffic Calming Measures
 - > Proximity to Community Focal Point
 - > Chronic Disease Mortality
 - > Chronic Disease Hospitalization
 - > Drinking in Excess of the Low-Risk Alcohol Drinking Guidelines
 - > Crude Birth Rate
 - > Fertility Rates
 - > Total Fertility Rate
 - > Pregnancy Rate
 - > Preterm Birth Rate
 - > Multiple Birth Rate
 - > Congenital Anomalies
 - > Congenital Infections
 - > Perinatal Mortality and Stillbirth Rates
 - > Neonatal and Infant Mortality Rates
 - > Folic Acid Supplementation
 - > Smoking During Pregnancy.
- The following resources were revised or newly created and posted to the Core Indicators website (<http://core.apheo.ca/index.php?pid=261>):
 - > **Data Sources:**
 - Canadian Congenital Anomalies Surveillance System (CCASS)
 - Integrated Services for Children Information System (ISCIS) Ontario Trauma Registry
 - Therapeutic Abortion Data
 - Vital Statistics Live Birth Data
 - > **Documentation:**
 - Guide to Reviewing Core Indicators and Core Indicator Resources
 - > **Syntax Files**
 - Recommended ICD-10 groupings for injury Core Indicators - Stata
 - Drinking in excess of the low-risk alcohol drinking guidelines - Stata
 - Drinking in excess of the low-risk alcohol drinking guidelines – SPSS

Established: February 1998 | **Members:** Various APHEO members and members from Public Health Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, Statistics Canada, University of Toronto, Public Health Agency of Canada, Local Health Integration Networks, Better Outcomes Registry & Network Ontario (BORN) and public health units. | **Acting Chair:** Brenda Guarda, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP



The Ministry of Health and Long-term Care (MOHLTC) remains committed to implementing a comprehensive performance management system that is grounded in clear standards and measures that make it possible to evaluate success in the delivery of public health programs and services. The Performance Management Working Group (PMWG) is tasked with reviewing the various inputs into the revitalization of public health in Ontario as they pertain to performance management and accountability, and providing advice on next steps.

In 2013, the PMWG continued to provide advice on the development, implementation, and maintenance of the components of the performance management framework such as a broader set of indicators, data monitoring and reporting systems, continuous quality improvement approaches and on-going implementation of performance indicators, with a view to upcoming 2014-2016 accountability agreements.

Key 2013 Accomplishments:

- Updated and confirmed the PMWG Terms of Reference
- Advised the MOHLTC on the establishment of Indicator Development Task Groups. Indicator consultations were completed with health unit staff for both Health Protection and Health Promotion indicators. Results of consultations, along with key next steps and time lines were discussed with the PMWG. The final set of 2014 Accountability Agreement Indicators was presented to the PMWG and Joint Ministry/Board of Health Group (JMB) in the fall.
- Provided feedback to the MOHLTC on the content of the draft Board of Health Risk Tool. The results of the tool's pilot phase were presented to the PMWG for comment.
- Initial Report on Public Health: Public health unit governance and administration variables were discussed. Existing variables continued to be updated. Peer groups used in the Initial Report were updated to include Statistics Canada's 2012 health unit peer groupings.

BORN PH WORKING GROUP



The Better Outcomes Registry and Network (BORN), granted registry status in November 2009, collects detailed information about pregnancy, birth and childhood across the province. The new BORN Information System (BIS) was launched on April 1st 2012. The BIS includes data from five formerly separate systems – the Niday Perinatal database, midwifery practices, the Fetal Alert Network, the maternal screening and the newborn screening program – to create one record for all mothers and infants in Ontario.

Public Health Units in Ontario have access to BORN data in two ways:

1. Standardized reports with pre-defined indicators – data available for the PHU, Ontario and Peer Group (where more than 3 PHUs are within a Peer Group)
2. PHU Datacube – allows users to create custom queries of the BIS data available for their PHU only

The BORN Public Health Working Group was struck in October 2013 to advocate for access to and use of BORN data for public health purposes and to establish an effective mechanism for communication between member agencies (BORN, public health units and Public Health Ontario). The working group has representatives from a number of health units (Peel, Toronto, Durham, York, Sudbury, Ottawa and Oxford), as well as Public Health Ontario and BORN.

The working group will be working with BORN and Public Health Ontario on a number of issues over the next few months, including addressing data quality, increasing access, training and communication. The working group will also act as a mechanism to consolidate feedback on the standardized reports and PHU datacube from APHEO members back to BORN for refinement.

For more information about BORN, please see: <https://www.bornontario.ca/en/about-born/>

Committee Members: Nancy Ramuscak, Amira Ali, Paul Fleiszer

ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES (ALPHA) REPORT



Mission Statement: alPha, through a strong and unified voice, advocates for public health policies, programs and services on behalf of member health units in Ontario

Long Term Objectives:

- To assist local public health units in providing efficient and effective services that meet the needs of the people of Ontario.
- To assist in establishing, through collaboration with other organizations, a unified and powerful voice for public health in Ontario which is consulted and respected.

Through policy analysis, discussion, collaboration, and advocacy, alPha 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.

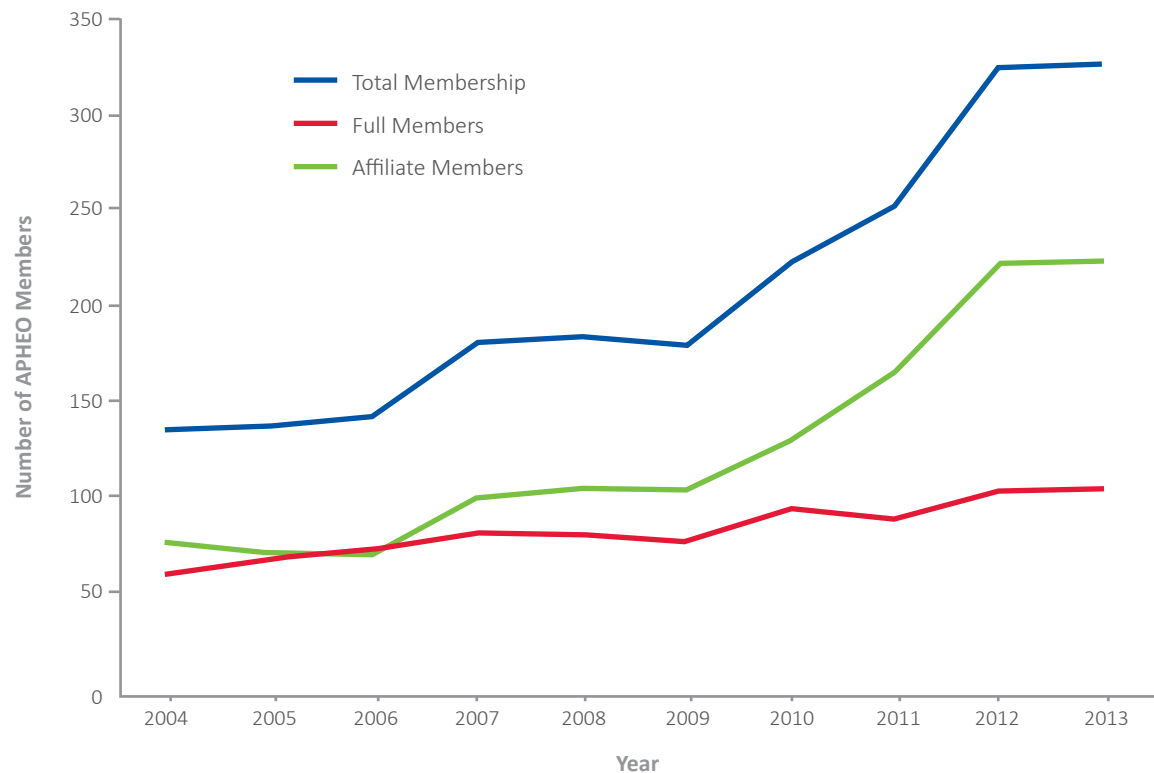
In 2013: alPha was behind many knowledge exchange opportunities

- February 2013 – alPha board section meetings and consultation regarding the Public Health Sector strategic plan
- Partnered with OPHA and PHO for the third TOPHC conference in April 2013.
- June 2013 – Keeping People Healthy and the annual AGM
 - Multiple resolutions passed http://www.alphaweb.org/?Resolutions_2013
- November 2013 – Fall symposium on healthy kids
 - Improving Ontario health units' understanding of the role of public health in advancing the March 2013 recommendations of the Healthy Kids Panel.

APHEO MEMBERSHIP REPORT



In 2013, APHEO had a membership consisting of 327 members (104 Full and 223 Affiliates), which was a small increase of two members over our 2012 year-end totals. Full memberships have remained on a slight upward trajectory since APHEO's inception but our affiliate memberships have doubled since 2009. Last year's plateau should not be cause for alarm as APHEO had a similar scenario between 2007 and 2009. Our full members represent 34 of the 36 health units in Ontario while our affiliate members represent 24 of the 36 health units and 49 other various organizations. The figure below shows APHEO's growth over the past 10 years.



TREASURER'S REPORT



In 2013, APHEO experienced a moderate amount of financial activity, with an overall budget surplus at year-end. The year was marked with two notable activities: the transition to Paypal for membership and invoiced payments, and the bi-annual conference.

As of February 2013, APHEO changed online payment service providers from 2Checkout to Paypal. The decision was mainly driven by the inability of 2Checkout to receive MasterCard payments. In making the change, APHEO also financially benefited from reduced online transaction fees.

The APHEO conference ran a slight overall deficit of \$640.48, but was well within acceptable limits of the revenue-neutral goal. Costs were off-set by registration payments and sponsorship.

The financial summary shows revenues received and expenses incurred in 2013. Highlights:

- Revenues were driven by conference registration and membership payments. Membership revenue was considerably more than projected. This was due to an overall increase in APHEO members, as well as 2014 membership payments received during the 2013 calendar year.
- Website work resulted in an inability to post job listings online, which, in turn, resulted in missed revenue opportunities. Despite this, website revenue received early in the year exceeded the year's expectation.
- As in previous years, non-discretionary and discretionary budgeted amounts were under spent, in part due to safety margins around items like teleconferences. APHEO was able to maintain provincial support for teleconferences aligned with educational sessions to cover meeting expenses.
- APHEO's special projects generally came in under-budget. Aside from the conference, all special projects will carry over to the 2014 budget year. Brickhost remains under contract for the website refresh project. Changing needs of the membership has resulted in modifications to the contract; the budget will be adjusted accordingly for 2014.

A comparison of revenues to operational and special project expenditures in 2013 shows a net surplus. No encumbered expenses were realized in 2013, resulting in overall net revenue of \$9,462.12. As of December 30, 2013, APHEO held \$92,058.41 in cash and \$10,322.52 in GIC investments, for a total of \$102,380.93 in liquid assets. APHEO remains financially stable as we enter into 2014.

APHEO ANNUAL STATEMENT 2013 – JANUARY 6, 2013

Projected Revenues	2013 Budget	2013 Year End
Membership	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 11,316.63
Website Revenue	\$ 300.00	\$ 393.10
Conference		\$ 40,518.00
Interest		\$ 43.90
Total	\$ 8,300.00	\$ 52,271.63

Nondiscretionary Operational Expenses

Executive teleconferences	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 664.68
Terry Delmore Committee		\$ 16.80
Executive Nomination Committee		\$ 11.94
Executive transition meeting	\$ 300.00	\$ 198.20
General meetings		
– teleconferences	\$ 1,080.00	\$ 0.00
General meetings expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 0.00
Insurance	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,036.88
Website Maintenance	\$ 500.00	\$ 329.45
Mailing costs		
(Courier fees, postage, etc.)	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 6,530.00	\$ 3,257.95

Discretionary Operational Expenses

Annual Report	\$ 750.00	\$ 491.55
Gifts	\$ 500.00	\$ 101.70
APHEO Exec member		
travel support	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 338.96
APHEO rep attending		
constituent society meetings	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 750.07
Promotion	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 0.00
Membership Drive	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00

Projected Revenues	2013 Budget	2013 Year End
Student Sponsorship:		
Elaine Hector Student Award	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Software	\$ 500.00	\$ 224.87
On-line Registrations	\$ 100.00	\$ 0.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 500.00	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 6,650.00	\$ 2,407.15

Special Projects

Incorporation	\$ 3,152.56	\$ 0.00
Website Review Committee	\$ 900.00	\$ 47.90
Website update	\$ 7,740.44	\$ 4,493.66
BORN Working Group		\$ 87.26
Policy Review	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 57.16
2013 Conference	\$ 26,294.82	\$ 32,458.43
2014 Workshop*	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 0.00
Projected special project expenses	\$ 39,087.82	\$ 37,144.41
Encumbrances*	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 0.00

Summary of 2013 APHEO Finances

Revenues	\$ 52,271.63
Operational expenditures	\$ 5,665.10
Special projects expenditures	\$ 37,144.41
Subtotal	\$ 9,462.12
Encumbered expenditures (2014 Workshop)	\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 9,462.12
Bank account balance (as of December 31, 2013)	\$ 92,058.41
GIC (as of March 2, 2013)	\$ 10,322.52
Total	\$ 102,380.93

*encumbrances for large special projects

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President

Cameron McDermaid
Ottawa Public Health

Vice President

Deanna White (partial term)
Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit

Secretary

Adam van Dijk
Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health

Treasurer

Maureen Horn
Peel Public Health

Representative for the Ontario Council of Community Health Accreditation

John Barbaro
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit

Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) representative

Deb Moore
Niagara Public Health Unit

Member at Large

Alanna Leffley
Grey Bruce Health Unit

Past President

Patrick Seliske
Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health