

**Association of Public Health Epidemiologists in Ontario**  
**Strategic Plan 2004**

Last Updated - June 4, 2004



This Strategic Plan was approved by membership at the June 4, 2004 general meeting with the proviso that it be treated as a working, dynamic document. The strategic plan will be dated with every update made. A working copy of the multi year plan will be maintained, updated and dated as a separate document.

### **APHEO's Mission**

To advance and promote the discipline and professional practice of epidemiology in Ontario public health units.

### **Vision Statement**

By the year 2007, APHEO will be a valued and recognized leader in public health. This will be accomplished by:

- Promoting the science and practice of epidemiology to strengthen the public health system,
- Providing support and professional development opportunities for its members and,
- Acting as a key resource for the advancement of public health.

### **Values Statement**

As a professional organization APHEO:

- Is committed to work to improve the health of the population,
- Believes that epidemiologists are integral to public health core functions,
- Is committed to advancing the science and evidence-based practice of public health epidemiology,
- Is committed to a supportive and participatory network of people with an interest in epidemiology and,
- Is committed to high standards for the practice of epidemiology.

### **Goal Statements**

1. Enhance the use of epidemiology skills and knowledge in public health.
2. Increase the profile of APHEO to be a recognized leader in public health epidemiology.
3. Increase the capacity to accomplish our mission.
4. Increase opportunities for professional development for members.

### **Draft Multi Year Plan**

The MYP approximates times when the action steps should begin and be completed. The timelines vary, and some are multi-year. Items identified as priorities are indicated in bold type.

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Who (Lead)</b>
Enhance the use of epidemiology skills and knowledge in public health	Ensure epi skills are reflected in core competencies	2004-2007	Report	OPHA Core Competency Task Group with Nancy Day as Rep
	Incorporate the Skills Enhancement Program in Ontario Health Units	Feb-Dec, 2004	New modules reviewed Sit on Ontario/National committee regarding role out	Patrick Seliske

Goals	Action	Timeline	Deliverable	Who (Lead)
			Dec. APHEO Education session re. Facilitation	
			New members recruited as facilitators	
			Support materials (l.e. papers) reviewed	
Increase the profile of APHEO to be a recognized leader in public health epidemiology	<b>Develop position paper on SARS response</b>	<b>Feb-August, 2004</b>	<b>Committee struck</b>	<b>Brenda Guarda</b>
			<b>Terms defined</b>	
			<b>Contractor hired</b>	
			<b>Position paper completed</b>	
	Define core competencies for public health epidemiologists and establish certification process	2004-2005	Committee struck	Ruth Sanderson
			Liaison with Carla and Health Canada established	
			Core competencies defined	
	Participate in the development of the Canadian Public Health Agency	2004	Attendance at meeting of Pan-Canadian Public Health Education Initiative (Virtual School of Public Health)	Mary Lou Decou
Other opportunities identified				
Provide a workshop on lobbying and advocacy for APHEO members	Feb. 2005?	Education session held at general meeting	Nancy Day, OPHA	
Participate in the development and implementation of integrated data systems	2004-2005	Sit on iPHIS Steering Committee	Sherri Deamond	
		Ensure APHEO representation on sub-committees as appropriate		
<b>Develop standards related to epidemiology</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>Develop contract for completion of indicators</b>	<b>Mary-Anne Pietrusiak</b>	
		<b>Secure funding for contract (London PHRED, HIUs, Health Canada or APHEO)</b>		
		<b>Core Indicators for public health completed</b>		

Goals	Action	Timeline	Deliverable	Who (Lead)
	Develop closer ties with national organizations that have overlapping missions such as CSEB and CPHA	2004-2005	List of options created for development of national public health epi organization Letter written to CPHA and CSEB to let them know who APHEO is and the role we could play Ideas sent to Carla Troy to enlist possible Health Canada support Option of holding joint CSEB/APHEO conference investigated Article written for CSEB bulletin on ideas re. Above	Lee Sieswerda
Increase the capacity to accomplish our mission	<b>Develop a process to enhance APHEO's ability to respond to issues in a timely manner</b>	2004	<b>Committee struck options for developing an APHEO position on issues (such as electronic voting, Exec power to make decisions, etc.) explored</b> <b>Process for considering which issues to develop position papers on explored</b> <b>Policy developed on how to produce an APHEO position on a given issue</b> <b>Policy developed on how to decide which issues to produce position papers</b> <b>Constitution updated to reflect policies</b>	Adam Stevens
	Review roles of	2004	Roles reviewed	Sherri

Goals	Action	Timeline	Deliverable	Who (Lead)
	executive committee and consider expansion of executive		New positions considered (i.e. separate secretary/treasurer, membership, advocacy, past president, conference chair, Health Can rep...) New job descriptions written	Deamond
	Explore options for expanding capacity beyond volunteer participation of members	2004	Committee struck	?
			Proposal drafted on different options for expanding capacity (i.e. hiring full or part time employees, contracting tasks, secondments)	
	Encourage involvement of existing members	2004	Existing letter welcoming new members revised to encourage participation	Suzanne Sinclair
		2004/ 2005	Survey of members completed to determine barriers to participation	new Membership exec. position?
		2005	Mentoring program established	
	Recruit targeted members such as CD Epidemiologists	2004-2007	Membership drive expanded to include CD Epis	Suzanne Sinclair
Increase opportunities for professional development for members.	Initiate discussions with Field Epi program regarding feasibility of developing in-house field epi program for public health unit epis	2004	Telephone call made to Linda Pinaro	Mary-Anne Pietrusiak
	Communicate continuing education opportunities throughout membership	2004	On-line clearinghouse developed by Health Canada Link to Health Can Clearinghouse added to APHEO web site	Carla Troy

## Parking Lot Activities:

Goal: Increase profile of APHEO...

- Under "Develop standards related to Epi", assist to revise Planning & Evaluation standard
- Secure funding for RRFSS in all health units

Goal: Increase opportunities for PD...

- Work with Health Canada's Skills Enhancement program to develop modules for Epidemiologists