

CULTIVATING PROGRESS

in Data, Leadership, and Impact
APHEO's 2025 Annual Review



Message from the 2025 President

In 2025, APHEO focused on building connections, creating opportunities for collaboration, and strengthening our role as a voice for epidemiologists and analysts across Ontario. Building on the work done in recent years to strengthen our organization, we prioritized creating spaces where members could connect, share expertise, and collaborate on emerging public health and data issues.

This year, through our Working Groups, Core Data Advisory Collaboratives (CDACs), and partnerships across the public health system, APHEO continued to support knowledge sharing, advance epidemiologic practice, and advocate for the data and information needed to inform local public health decision-making.

We also continued to strengthen our organizational foundation to support APHEO's long-term sustainability, growth and ability to serve members in an evolving public health landscape.

Highlights in 2025 include:

- Held the first post-pandemic multi-day conference in collaboration with the Ontario Public Health Evaluators Network (OPHEN) discussing intentional equity approaches in public health practice.
- Launched APHEO's first Core Data Advisory Collaborative (CDAC) focused on Immunizations.
- Established a second CDAC, focused on Infectious Diseases, and began planning for a third CDAC to launch in early 2026.
- Continued engagement with the Ministry of Health's Business Intelligence and Strategy Unit (BISU) to enhance public health data systems and improve data access.
- Participated in provincial initiatives including Public Health Ontario's Immunization Coverage Evaluation, the Integrated Health Advisory Committee, and feedback on the draft Population Health Assessment and Surveillance Protocol.
- Strengthened APHEO's operational sustainability through membership in the Ontario Nonprofit Network and the decision to operate solely under its incorporated not-for-profit organization.

Thank you to our Working Group Leads, Members, CDAC participants, and Executive Committee members for your ongoing leadership, expertise and commitment to our community throughout the year. It has been rewarding to see members reconnect, collaborate and contribute to the ongoing advancement of local public health epidemiology in Ontario.



Danielle Hachborn
2025 APHEO President

2025 Key Activities

PARTNERSHIP BUILDING AND RELATIONSHIP CONNECTIONS

In 2025, APHEO continued to strengthen relationships and build new opportunities for collaboration among epidemiologists, analysts, evaluators, researchers, and public health partners across Ontario. APHEO continued creating opportunities for epidemiologists and analysts across health units to connect on topic-specific work and discuss common challenges through meetings, committees and advisory groups.

- APHEO and the Ontario Public Health Evaluators Network (OPHEN) held the first post-pandemic multi-day conference, bringing together professionals from across Ontario to network, share expertise, and learn from one another.
- APHEO launched its first Core Data Advisory Collaborative (CDAC) focused on Immunizations. The CDAC provides a forum for members to identify data issues, share expertise, and collaborate on solutions related to immunization surveillance and reporting.
- Building on the success of the Immunization CDAC, an Infectious Disease CDAC was established in 2025. Planning also began for a third CDAC, scheduled to launch in early 2026.
- The Immunization CDAC provided a letter of support for a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant application focused on immunization coverage in Ontario.

DATA ADVOCACY

In 2025, APHEO continued to advocate for local public health perspectives and contribute expertise to provincial initiatives related to surveillance, data quality, and public health reporting.

- Members of the Immunization CDAC participated in Public Health Ontario's Immunization Coverage Evaluation, providing local public health perspectives and expertise.
- APHEO received the new Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) release and continued to have discussions around developments relevant to epidemiology, surveillance, and population health assessment activities across public health units.
- APHEO continued engagement with the Ministry of Health's Business Intelligence and Strategy Unit (BISU) regarding enhancements to available data and datasets supporting local public health decision making.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

In 2025, APHEO continued to provide opportunities for members to connect, share expertise, and collaborate on emerging public health priorities.

Conference

- APHEO and the OPHEN hosted the multi-day conference from May 4 to 6, 2025 in Kingston. The conference theme in 2025 was “Bridging Health Inequities: Strengthening public health practice through intentional equity-based approaches”.
- The participants reflected a shared commitment to integrating health equity into public health practice, data generation, and decision-making. The conference emphasized cross-disciplinary collaboration and addressing systemic inequities through innovative methods, data-informed approaches, and meaningful community engagement. APHEO Members built knowledge, skills, and professional networks to support equitable health outcomes for diverse populations across Ontario.

Core Data Advisory Collaboratives

- APHEO launched its first Core Data Advisory Collaborative (CDAC) focused on Immunizations. The Immunization CDAC created a forum for discussion and collaboration on data-related challenges and opportunities. CDACs have created new opportunities for epidemiologists and analysts across health units to connect on specialized topic areas and share expertise.

APHEO ADMINISTRATION

In 2025, the Executive Committee continued strengthening APHEO's governance and operational sustainability.

- APHEO Executive made the decision to dissolve the numbered company for event planning and moved to operating solely out of the not-for-profit incorporated business. This streamlines many administrative processes.
- APHEO joined the Ontario Nonprofit Network (ONN) to access resources, guidance, and supports related to governance, operations, and organizational sustainability.
- The Executive Committee continued to oversee the administrative and governance responsibilities associated with APHEO's incorporated not-for-profit status.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

APHEO continued to maintain a strong financial position. Between January 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025, APHEO's revenue through memberships and interest earned totaled \$52,937.66. APHEO's discretionary and non-discretionary expenses for the year totaled \$19,921.25 including insurance, legal consultation fees, and software licenses. This resulted in a surplus of \$2,280.18. APHEO's total assets as of December 31, 2025 were \$139,326.75.

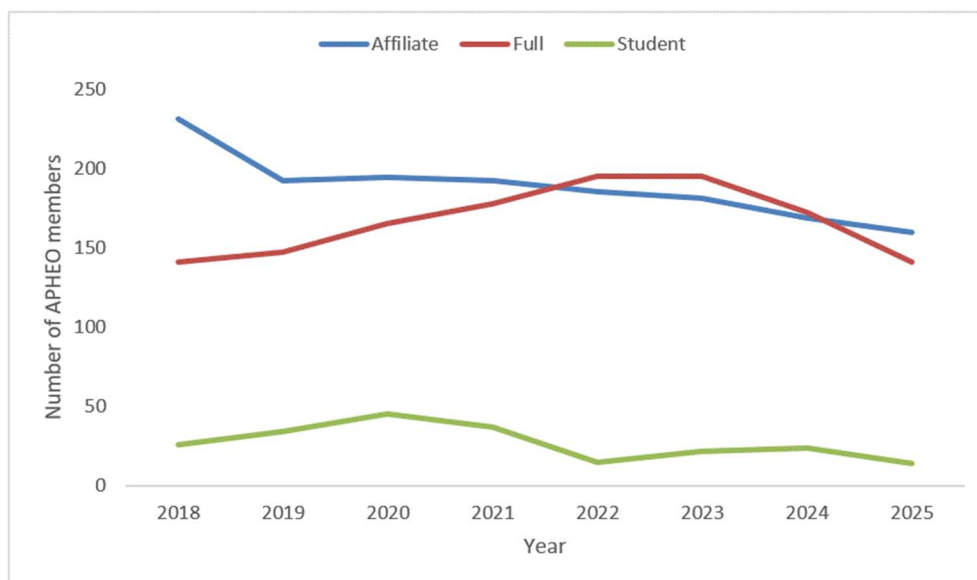
Table 1: 2025 Financial Summary

	APHEO Corporation
Revenue	\$52,937.66
Expenses	\$19,921.25
Surplus/Deficit	\$2,280.18
Total Assets	\$139,326.75

MEMBERSHIP

In 2025, APHEO membership decreased back down to pre-2022 levels after the influx of staff hired at Public Health Units to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. APHEO continued to focus on strengthening member engagement through knowledge exchange, collaboration, and professional networking opportunities, such as the CDACs and conferences.

Figure 1: Number of APHEO Members by Membership Type, 2019 to 2025



2025 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Table 2: Participating APHEO Executive in 2025

Executive Committee		
Past President	Heather Pimbert	York Region Public Health
President	Danielle Hachborn	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Vice-President	Jenny Santos	Southwestern Public Health
Secretary	Dinna Lozano	North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit
Treasurer	John Barbaro	Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
Member at Large (1 yr)	Suzanne Fegan	South East Health Unit
Member at Large (2 yr)	Amira Ali	Ottawa Public Health
alPHA Representative	Caitlyn Paget	Durham Region Health Unit

LOOKING AHEAD

As APHEO looks ahead to 2026, we will continue building on the momentum generated in 2025.

Priorities include strengthening member engagement and capacity, supporting existing and emerging Core Data Advisory Collaboratives, fostering collaboration across Ontario's public health system, and maintaining strong partnerships with provincial organizations. We continue to advocate for high-quality, integrated data systems, modern surveillance infrastructure and timely access to data that supports evidence-informed local public health planning and decision-making.

As the public health landscape continues to evolve, APHEO remains committed to advancing epidemiologic practice, promoting excellence in population health assessment and surveillance, and supporting the use of data and evidence to improve the health of communities across Ontario.

Thank you to all APHEO members, Working Group Chairs, CDAC participants, Executive Committee members, conference volunteers, and partners whose dedication, expertise and collaboration continue to strengthen APHEO and advance local public health epidemiology across Ontario.

