

**Standards Modernization
Executive Steering Committee
September 2016
Highlights #4**



The Executive Steering Committee for the Standards Modernization (the “ESC”) continues the review of the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS) with a goal to strengthen and enhance accountability and transparency within the public health system.

ESC meetings have focussed on discussing opportunities related to system integration, new and emerging issues of public health importance, approaches to revise the OPHS to ensure greater emphasis on population health assessment to inform planning of programs and services, the scope of the OPHS, and opportunities for flexibility within the OPHS to address local needs.

On August 4, 2016, ESC members had a teleconference meeting and discussed the role of public health in mental health promotion and opportunities to include mental health promotion as part of the OPHS. ESC also discussed opportunities to strengthen population based activities in the Environmental Health Program Standards aimed at emerging public health priorities including climate change and the built environment.

Future meetings will focus on discussing recommendations on changes to the Standards from the Practice and Evidence Program Standards Advisory Committee (PEPSAC), re-visiting the scope of the OPHS taking into consideration the recommendations from PEPSAC, discussing a consultation strategy, value-for-money, and transparency.

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