

**Fernandes, Krislyn**

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**From:** Susan Lee <susan@alphaweb.org>  
**Sent:** May 10, 2019 10:04 AM  
**To:** All Health Units  
**Subject:** Update from alPHa BOH Section Executive - May 2019  
**Attachments:** 2019 05 BOH Update to Members.pdf  
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**PLEASE ROUTE TO:**

**All Board of Health Members**

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Please find attached an update to all board of health members from the alPHa Boards of Health Section Executive Committee.

This quarterly update is provided to help members keep abreast of the BOH Section's and alPHa's activities as well as important sectoral news.

Regards,

Susan

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## Update to Board of Health Members May 10, 2019

### 2019 Ontario Budget: Public Health System Restructuring

On April 11, as part of the 2019 Ontario Budget reading, the provincial government announced plans to change the public health system as follows:

- reduce the number of public health units from the current 35 to 10 and move to a regional structure by 2020-21 (these 10 new regional public health entities will be governed by 10 regional boards of health, the size and composition of which are presently unknown);
- save \$200 million annually from across the local public health system by 2021-22;
- streamline Public Health Ontario; and
- regionalize the public health laboratory system.

Since then, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care has informed health units that it will reduce the current provincial-municipal cost-sharing arrangement over the next three years beginning April 1, 2019 as follows:

Year	Provincial-Municipal Share for Toronto	Provincial-Municipal Share for All Other Health Units
2019-20	60/40	70/30
2020-21	60/40	70/30
2021-22	50/50	60/40 for 6 regions with population greater than 1 million; 70/30 for 3 regions with a population less than 1 million

### alPHa Responses and Action

Soon after the budget announcements, alPHa and the membership worked to make Ontarians aware of public health's concerns over the potential negative impacts of these changes on community health and well-being. On April 24, a [position statement](#) was issued and a [news release](#) was sent out on April 12.

alPHa's Executive Committee, COMOH members, and Board of Health Chairs also held several emergency meetings over the past several weeks to discuss the proposals and strategize on next steps. The alPHa Board of Directors met at the end of April and sent a [letter](#) on May 3rd to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care seeking clarification on aspects of the proposed changes. alPHa has set up a [dedicated page](#) on its website that houses all communications to date by the association, as well as those by members, on the proposed changes. These are being shared with health units and boards of health in the hopes they may be adapted for local context and use.

### Quick Links to alPHa's Online Resources Regarding Public Health Restructuring:

- [Speaking Notes – Toronto Board of Health Meeting May 6<sup>th</sup>](#)
- [Letter to the Minister](#)
- [alPHa Position Statement](#)

- [Speaking Notes – Toronto Board of Health Meeting April 15<sup>th</sup>](#)
- [alPHA News Release - Budget 2019 & PH Restructure](#)
- [alPHA Memo to Members - Budget 2019](#)
- [alPHA Post-Election Flyer](#)
- [alPHA Pre-Budget Submission 2019](#)
- [Resource Paper](#)
- [Local Public Health Responses](#)
- [alPHA Submission - Expert Panel on Public Health](#)
- Public health promotional material including a [brochure](#) and [video](#)
- Media Coverage on Twitter: [@PHAgenecies](#)

## Next Steps

As we wait to hear further details from the Ministry in the coming weeks, alPHA encourages the membership to attend the upcoming annual conference in Kingston, Ontario. Retitled **Moving Forward with Public Health**, the program has been redrafted to reflect the recent announcements on sectoral changes. Canada's Chief Public Health Officer will kick off the event with a keynote address on building partnerships and there will be two panel discussions related to public health restructuring. The first panel will look at the cyclical nature of support for public health in this province and the second panel will examine the critical elements of Ontario's public health system as it evolves. This conference will provide many opportunities for board of health members to share their thoughts and ideas on restructuring as public health moves forward.

## Upcoming Events and Meetings for All Board of Health Members

**June 9-11, 2019:** Moving Forward with Public Health, [alPHA 2019 Annual General Meeting & Conference](#), Four Points by Sheraton Hotel & Suites, 285 King St. E., Kingston, Ontario.

**June 11, 2019** (during alPHA Annual Conference): [alPHA Boards of Health Section Meeting](#)  
All board of health members in Ontario are welcome to attend this meeting, which will be held during the alPHA Annual Conference in Kingston (pre-registration required).

*This update was brought to you by the Boards of Health Section Executive Committee of the alPHA Board of Directors. alPHA provides a forum for member boards of health and public health units in Ontario to work together to improve the health of all Ontarians. Any individual who sits on a board of health that is a member organization of alPHA is entitled to attend alPHA events and sit on the Association's various committees. Learn more about us at [www.alphaweb.org](http://www.alphaweb.org)*