



City of Hamilton Report for Consideration

To: Chair and Members
Public Health Sub-Committee

Date: April 28, 2025

Report No: BOH25009

Subject/Title: Participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference

Ward(s) Affected: (City Wide)

Recommendations

- 1) That the following Public Health Sub-Committee members **BE DESIGNATED** as City of Hamilton representatives at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference:
 - (a) TBD
 - (b) TBD
- 2) That Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, Medical Officer of Health, and Dr. Brendan Lew, Associate Medical Officer of Health, **BE DESIGNATED** as City of Hamilton Public Health Services representatives at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference;
- 3) That all City of Hamilton designated representatives **BE GRANTED** voting privileges at the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference; and,
- 4) That costs associated with Public Health Sub-Committee representatives' participation in the 2025 Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Conference **BE BILLED** to Account 56305 – Councillor's Conferences, to come from 2025 Public Health Services budget gapping.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to inform identification of City of Hamilton representatives at the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Annual General Meeting and Conference June 18, 2025 to June 20, 2025;
- This annual gathering brings together Board of Health members and senior public health leaders from across the province to discuss organizational matters and pressing issues facing public health in Ontario;
- In previous years, senior leaders from Public Health Services attended the meeting together with one or two representatives from the Board of Health; and,
- Given the shifting Board of Health governance structure in Hamilton, it is recommended that the Public Health Sub-Committee designate one or two Public Health Sub-Committee members to participate in this year's meeting.

Financial Considerations

If approved, all registration and travel costs for Public Health Sub-Committee members, including transportation and accommodation in Toronto for the duration of the conference, would be charged to the General Legislative Budget (300100).

Travel and registration costs for the participation of Dr. Elizabeth Richardson and Dr. Brendan Lew would be covered through Public Health Services' budget.

Background

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) is a not-for-profit organization that provides leadership to Ontario's Boards of Health. The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) represents all of Ontario's 29 boards of health, medical officers and associate medical officers of health, and senior public health managers in each of the public health disciplines – nursing, inspections, nutrition, dentistry, health promotion, epidemiology, and business administration. As public health leaders, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) advises and lends expertise to members on the governance, administration, and management of health units. The Association also collaborates with governments and other health organizations, advocating for a strong, effective, and efficient public health system in the province. Through policy analysis, discussion, collaboration, and advocacy, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa)'s 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.

Analysis

Each year, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) holds an Annual General Meeting and Conference to bring together its membership to discuss the latest developments from the province affecting public health and some of the challenges and opportunities impacting Boards of Health locally. In 2025, the Association of Local

Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held on June 18, 2025 to June 20, 2025 at the Pantages Hotel in Toronto.

The Board of Health designates representatives of the City of Hamilton to participate in this meeting each year. In the past, this has often been two senior leaders from Public Health Services and one or two Board of Health members.

Given the ongoing governance restructuring of Hamilton's Board of Health, this year it is recommended that one to two members of the Public Health Sub-Committee are designated to represent Hamilton, along with the Medical Officer of Health and the Associate Medical Officer of Health.

As part of this meeting, Board of Health members are invited to submit resolutions for consideration at the Annual General Meeting & Resolutions Session, which are then voted on by the participating membership. The deadline for submission of resolutions is May 5, 2025. Given the limited time, this could be considered for the 2026 conference.

Alternatives

Although there is participation from across the province, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference is not a mandatory event for Boards of Health. Public Health Sub-Committee could choose not to designate any representatives for this event.

Relationship to Council Strategic Priorities

The recommendations in this report support the following 2022-2026 Council Priorities, Outcomes, and Measures of Success:

3. Responsiveness & Transparency
 - 3.3. Build a high performing public service

The Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHA) Annual General Meeting and Conference provides an important opportunity to connect with other Boards of Health from around the province to share experiences and align direction on key public health issues. This opportunity for knowledge exchange and alignment allows the Board of Health to learn from the experiences and innovations of other health units to ensure the best public health services are provided to the Hamilton community.

Previous Reports Submitted

Not Applicable.

Consultation

Not Applicable.

Appendices and Schedules Attached

Not Applicable.

Prepared by:

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**Submitted and
recommended by:**

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