**Happenings of OPHNL – Quarter One, 2018**

I am pleased to provide an update on the progress OPHNL has made on our strategic priorities in Q1 of 2018:

 **Relationships:**

As you may be aware, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care recently appointed Dr. Michelle Acorn as the new Provincial Chief Nursing Officer. We wrote a letter of congratulations to the new PCNO and have a meeting set up in May to apprise her of the mandate of our association and solicit her input and support for our work

**Systems Level Impact:**

To help shape the implementation of the new Ontario Public Health Standards, we are advocating to ADM Roselle Martino to have OPHNL engagement and participation on various implementation committees related to public health workforce, evidence and best practices and training and development

We are monitoring the work underway on RN prescribing and are participating in consultations that as they are being organized by the College of Nurses’ of Ontario. Nurses have always been part of systems transformation and we are committed to ensuring that our members have a voice on the issue of RN Prescribing. This issue will be added to OPHNL’s Chief Nursing Officers Network meeting scheduled for June 12, where we hope to dialogue and shape a common vision on communication in regards to this important practice change.

alPHa continues to monitor the provincial budget and the elections agenda. Please see link on alPHa’s advocacy work to-date: <http://www.alphaweb.org/?page=alPHa_Letters>

**Foster a Highly Competent and Innovative Workforce:**

### Our Highly Competent Workforce workgroup will be exploring tools and resources for mentoring and coaching emerging leaders to support succession planning for roles in public health nursing leadership

**Marketing and Memberships**

To date, I have had the opportunity to attend and engage with OPHNL members of the Northern Region and Central East Regions. It was wonderful to hear from the members about their passion and commitment to public health and nursing. I hope to continue to dialogue and will be attending the meetings of the remaining regions in the near future. We will aim to design our initiatives based on your needs.

Last but not least, I would like to welcome Esther Moghadam to the OPHNL Executive. She is joining us as our new Chief Nursing Officer Network liaison replacing Fiona Kelly. Fiona continues to be our Treasurer and is also the OPHNL member on the OPHA Board. I have replaced our past President Maureen Cava on the alPHa board. I would like to thank all of the OPHNL Executive members for their hard work and dedication to our association.

Sincerely,

Hamida Bhimani

OPHNL President