

ANDSOOHA Representation to the alPHa Board
ANDSOOHA Annual General Meeting
March 30, 2011.

As President of ANDSOOHA, I have represented our association as an affiliate representative on the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) Board of Directors since the alPHa Annual General Meeting in June 2010. During this time, quarterly Board meetings have occurred which have included discussions on topics such as Charles Pascal's report, the new full day Early Learning program, wind turbines, fluoridation in water and the 2009 Chief Medical Officer of Health Report, "Public Health – Everyone's Business".

Strategic Planning

Strategic planning sessions were held for both members of Boards of Health and Medical Officers of Health to help inform alPHa's Strategic Plan. Discussions have also been occurring around the process for the development of ongoing strategic plans including the frequency of strategic planning and secession of leadership into the Treasurer position and Chair positions within the Board of Health and Council of Medical Officers of Health (COMOH) sections.

alPHa Winter Symposium

The alPHa Winter Symposium occurred on February 10 – 11, 2011 in Toronto and included an orientation session for Board of Health members, separate Board of Health and COMOH section meetings; and presentations on Health Canada's position on Fluoride from Dr. Cooney, Canada's Chief Dental Officer, and Early Learning: Transforming Vision into Action by Jim Grieve, Assistant Deputy Minister, Early Learning Division, Ministry of Health.

Advocacy

alPHa established a working group to develop key messages for the Standing Committee hearings on Bill 141, which proposes amendments to the Health Protection and Promotion Act related to the Chief Medical Officer of Health's authority. Letters of advocacy can be viewed on alPHa's website.

alPHa Working Groups

Two working groups were established in December 2010. The alPHa Professional Development Steering Committee's purpose is to provide strategic direction and oversight regarding professional development and facilitate the planning and execution of events. The alPHa Records Management Working Group will be addressing records management issues and is currently drafting a survey to assess health unit needs in record management and identify strengths, weaknesses and barriers.

Upcoming Events

Upcoming events include a joint conference with the Ontario Public Health Association and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion on April 5-8, 2011, The Ontario Public Health Convention, the alPHa fitness challenge on May 12 and the alPHa Annual General Meeting on June 12-14 in Toronto.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jo Ann Tober
ANDSOOHA President