

# executive

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 August 3, 2016

Ms. Roselle Martino

Assistant Deputy Minister

Population and Public Health Division

Ministry of Health and Long-term Care

Dear Ms. Martino:

The Ontario Association of Public Health Nursing Leaders (OPHNL) actively supports the Standards Modernization. We are pleased to represent public health nurses on the Practice and Evidence Program Standards Advisory Committee (PEPSAC), however are concerned over the lack of public health nursing representation on the Accountability Committee for Standards Modernization. We believe that nursing leaders, and in particular the Chief Nursing Officers (CNOs) in public health bring an important and different perspective, with most of the CNOs having senior director positions in addition to their CNO role.

As you are aware, the Ontario Public Health Organizational Standards require that boards of health designate a CNO who is responsible for nursing quality assurance and nursing practice leadership. We applaud the CNO initiative and its recognition that the presence of a CNO will enhance health outcomes by enabling quality public health nursing practice.

It is our understanding this committee will focus on an overall approach to accountability, including the framework and focusing on board of health accountability. As well, the committee will consider how the accountability framework will be operationalized and what tools and resources are required to support fulfilling the accountability requirements.

OPHNL and its CNO members are committed to fulfilling the vision of the Chief Nursing Officer initiative. We wish to join our AOPHBA, OPHA, alPHa and COMOH colleagues and contribute our unique experience promoting organizational effectiveness through our established contribution to performance, quality and accountability.

Given that the committee has only recently begun its work, we respectfully request the addition of at least one of the public health CNOs represented on this committee.

Sincerely,

Maureen Cava
President, OPHNL

cc: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

Dr. Bob Bell, Deputy Minister of Health and Long-term Care