

**Alberta Public Health Association
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2018-2019**

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About the APHA

Overview: vision, mission and values

The Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) is a provincial not-for-profit association representing public health in Alberta. The APHA was established in 1943 and was incorporated as a registered charitable organization in 1955. The APHA is a provincial affiliate of the Canadian Public Health Association and works with the other provincial and territorial public health associations across Canada through its membership in the Canadian Network of Public Health Associations. The APHA is the only independent voice for public health in Alberta. APHA has a voluntary membership that includes practitioners, academics, students, representatives of government departments, non-government organizations, community members, and others. Interests and professional foci of members include but are not limited to:

- Health protection;
- Disease and injury prevention;
- Health promotion;
- Social determinants of health;
- Population health;
- Health equity; and
- Health-related policy

A voluntary board is elected by the membership and governs the Association. The membership gives direction to the board to act on specific public health issues through resolutions passed annually at the Annual General Meeting and through ongoing interaction.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in public health. We welcome membership from those working in health, as well as those working outside of the health system but whose work influences well-being, such as planners, transportation engineers, individuals working in social policy or any aspect of the social determinants of health, social workers, recreation and parks professionals, and others.

We are always interested in hearing from enthusiastic, reliable, and hard-working members who would like to take on formal roles within the Association, including but not limited to serving on the Board of Directors. Please contact us for more information (apha.comm@gmail.com).

APHA Vision: A vibrant public health community contributing to a healthy Alberta

APHA Mission: To be an independent, credible and fearless advocate for public health and health equity in Alberta

APHA Values/Principles:

- *Informed:* evidence-based; evidence-informed; value science but cognizant of broader context and diverse ways of knowing; rigorous
- *Integrity:* trust; honesty; ethical; principled; transparent; fairness
- *Collaborative:* inclusive; respectful
- *Innovative:* courageous; progressive; creative; enterprising

APHA 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Angeline Webb

President

Angeline Webb is the Regional Manager of Health Policy and Health Promotion with the Canadian Cancer Society where she has been engaged in population health and public health advocacy for the last 15 years. She develops, implements, and administers all health policy development and health promotion programming for the Canadian Cancer Society in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. Angeline's focus is healthy public policy and shared public health leadership. Angeline has been involved with the APHA since 2010.

Kristyn Berry

Treasurer

Kristyn Berry is a public health professional with experience in health policy and population health. As a graduate of the University of Alberta, she has an interdisciplinary background that includes sociology and political science. Kristyn has carried her passion for public health through to her professional career working with the Canadian Cancer Society, where she supported health policy initiatives and media advocacy campaigns. She is now working with Heart & Stroke, leading advocacy initiatives for Alberta through government relations and public outreach. Kristyn's background in chronic disease prevention has led to her involvement with several key health organizations where she volunteers to achieve meaningful and sustainable change.

Ashley Drobot

Secretary

Ashley Drobot has a Master of Public Health from Queen's University. She works as a Senior Research and Evaluation Consultant with Alberta Health Services. In this role, she and her team have undertaken developmental, process and outcome evaluations related to provincial wait-time policies, local childcare nutrition policies, referral automation, patient engagement, and chronic disease management. Her evaluation and research experience are grounded in both quantitative and qualitative methodologies. Her research interests include: the social determinants of health, health policy, and evaluation. She is currently working toward obtaining her Credentialed Evaluator and Project Management Professional designations. Ashley hopes to contribute to the growth of the Alberta Public Health Association as an organization in expanding its reach and engagement among public health practitioners alike through organizing conferences, speaker series, and other public health events.

Aslam Bhatti

Director-at-Large

Aslam Bhatti has extensive experience in health administration and board governance. He started his career in banking management and subsequently moved to his calling for public service where he held several senior positions with the Government of Alberta and not for profit organizations.

Within the Government of Alberta, he has worked for Treasury Board, Solicitor General Department and for 12 years as Assistant Deputy Minister at Alberta Health. This was followed by three years with Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry as Chief Operating Officer; six years as Vice President with Alberta Cancer Board; three years as Vice President with Canadian Partnership Against Cancer and five years as Executive in Residence with School of Public Health, University of Alberta.

Kenn Bur

Director-at-Large

Kenn Bur is a public relations professional with a passion for bringing people and creative ideas together to help achieve strategic social justice objectives.



Kenn is the Chief Imagination Officer of Citizen Strategies, an Edmonton-based communications/marketing consultancy. He also has 25-plus years of experience leading communication and marketing teams in Alberta's public sector.

Kenn's health-related experience includes roles as: (a) a crisis line volunteer for the Calgary Crisis Centre; (b) a provincial social worker in southeast Alberta; (c) a healthcare reporter for the now-defunct Alberta Hospital Association; (d) a volunteer director with Action on Smoking and Health; (e) a co-founder of Homeless Connect Edmonton; and, (f) the marketing director for a major medical assessment company.

With deep roots in rural Alberta, Calgary and Edmonton (where he now resides), Kenn is committed to increasing citizen awareness of public health issues. "All Albertans who want improved public health protection are stakeholders in APHA's continued success."

Katrina Milaney

Director-at-Large

Dr. Katrina Milaney has an interdisciplinary academic background that includes sociological and gender-disability theory frames and has several years in community-based research. Correspondingly, Dr. Milaney's research track record was established in communities where she spent 15 years on projects related to public policy development. She is a qualitative researcher with a particular interest in participatory action designs and uses critical theory frameworks to study social determinants of health including disability, homelessness, gender, culture, domestic violence, and mental health. She currently sits on the Executive Steering Committee for the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and has served on several community and government committees including as an advisor to the Premier of Alberta on homelessness and health strategies. Part of her critical theory driven study of social determinants revolves around her interest in political and economic ideology and their impact on public systems and service delivery.

Lindsay McLaren

Director-at-Large

Lindsay McLaren is Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences and the O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary. Lindsay first joined the APHA Board in 2012. She holds an Applied Public Health Chair funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Public Health Agency of Canada, and Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions. Her research focuses on population health and health equity in various thematic areas including most recently community water fluoridation and dental public health. She is a Senior Editor for the *Canadian Journal of Public Health* and Co-Editor for *Critical Public Health* and has taught the social determinants of health to undergraduate and graduate students at the University of Calgary for over 12 years.

Temitayo Famuyide

Director-at-Large

Temi Famuyide currently works as a Research & Strategy Manager at Vecova. She has over 10 years' experience in public health and not-for-profit sector with emphasis in the areas of applied research and evaluation, community capacity building, strategic planning and policy development. Prior to joining Vecova, Temi held various positions working with Alberta Health Services and at the Region of Peel as a Research and Policy Analyst. She also held a Health System Planner position with the Waterloo-Wellington Local Health Integration Network in Ontario.

Temi holds Master of Science degree in Public Health and she is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP). She is passionate about public health and is avid believer in improving the health system for vulnerable populations through inter-sectoral action using levers outside of the health sector.

Tricia Lewchuk

Director-at-Large



With a Graduate Certificate in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology, Tricia has a strong background in both strategy and human behaviour analysis. These skills have enabled her to see the big picture and develop a passion to help foster awareness and build a healthier, more equitable society. Tricia has done this through her work in mental health at the BC Crisis Centre, through research in the Evaluation Studies Unit at UBC's Faculty of Medicine, and through her work at large health charities including the Heart and Stroke Foundation and now the Canadian Cancer Society, where she works today. Her passion for health, wellness and public health has led her to investigate prevention research and she hopes to work with some of the Canadian Cancer Society's funded researchers to help bring more disease prevention information to the public in the coming months. She is driven by this goal and looks forward to collaborating with public health partners and APHA members.

Zainab Suleman

Director-at-Large

Zainab Suleman is an Informatics Analyst with the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour, Government of Alberta. With a Masters of Public Health in Applied Biostatistics from the University of Alberta, she is most interested in using statistics and analytics to inform policy decisions and program delivery. Zainab has previous experience with the Public Health Agency of Canada, where her work focused on food safety initiatives. In her current role, she has done extensive work on developing selection tools and algorithms for focused inspection programs at worksites across Alberta. Her goal is to prevent workplace injury and illness which affect Albertans on a daily basis. Zainab is certified in Public Health by the National Board of Public Health Examiners and is currently pursuing project management training.

Ali Walker

Director-at-Large (on parental leave)

Ali has a strong background in both clinical nursing practice and international public health initiatives. She holds a Bachelor of Science Nursing degree from the University of Alberta and Master of Public Health Degree from Brigham Young University. She has been an educator in the health sciences field for over 10 years and is currently the coordinator of the Bachelor of Health Sciences Public Health program at the University of Lethbridge. Ali is committed to advancing the work of public health and supporting initiatives that build and strengthen public health capacity to promote health for all.

APHA 2018-2019 Committee Members and Volunteers

In addition to our Board Members who hold formal, elected roles with our organization, we are most grateful to the following individuals for their important and highly valued contributions to the APHA during the 2018-2019 fiscal year:

	Role and Contribution	Committee
Qendresa Beka	Website management, newsletter, member inquiries	Membership & Communications Committee member
Cathy Gladwin	Membership management and liaison with CPHA for conjoint membership	Membership & Communications Committee member
Michelle Kilborn	APHA liaison with the Alberta Recreation and Parks Association	Issues, Partnerships & Funding Committee member
Chelsea Tan	Newsletter, member inquiries and social media - Twitter APHA intern supporting communications	Membership & Communications Committee member
Cynthia Weijs	APHA liaison with the Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention Supports social media – Facebook management	Membership & Communications Committee member Issues, Partnerships & Funding Committee member
Amy Beck	Membership payments	Membership & Communications Committee member
Stephanie Caron-Roy	Supported the planning and development of political and public engagement initiatives	Issues, Partnerships & Funding Committee member

President's Report

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year the Alberta Public Health Association, with the dedication and perseverance of the Board and our members, created and managed many opportunities to support action in public health even in the face of some daunting resource and capacity challenges.

At the end of Alberta Public Health Association's 2017-2018 fiscal year we were proud to co-host, with the O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary, the *Campus Alberta: Health Outcomes and Public Health* forum entitled *'In defence of public health: identifying opportunities to strengthen our field'*. This theme was chosen due to the ongoing discourse concerning the weakening of public health across Canada and beyond¹. As an outcome from the event's engagement process APHA determined key opportunities and action areas to move forward in defense of public health:²

- **Define, and work towards, a unity of purpose:** Enshrine a common definition of public health and develop unity of team to move towards a common purpose, including primary prevention and the social determinants of health
- **Better package and market ourselves:** To the public and to decision makers, so they are clear about what we do, can understand our value, and can move towards partnering with us
- **Mobilize the public health community:** To identify opportunities and communities to address key/substantial issues, such as modernizing the Public Health Act, and increase cohesiveness/loyalty within a dispersed/distributed public health workforce

The APHA has supported movement in each of these areas in various ways through the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Through the leadership and hard work of past-present and current board member Dr. Lindsay McLaren the APHA has supported work in areas in defining a unity of purpose as well as improving intersectoral collaboration. The APHA was represented at two provincial meetings funded through the Campus Alberta Health Outcomes and Public Health meeting grants initiative. These were:

- *Working towards unity of purpose in public health education: starting a conversation across three Alberta post-secondary institutions* (February 11, 2019, Calgary)
- *Data infrastructure to understand and improve the social determinants of health in Alberta: A cross-ministry conversation to explore value, challenges, and opportunities* (March 12, 2019, Edmonton)

Other work in helping to mobilize the public health community through intersectoral collaboration is listed below in the Issues, Partnerships & Funding committee section.

As an organization managed solely by volunteers, the APHA continues to face capacity and resource issues. In particular, we struggled with managing an online membership payment system disruption due to the enormous capacity required to administer and manage technological change. APHA has developed measures to fill these gaps but we continue to be concerned regarding managing these resource intensive systems without adequate supports. However, in the face of these challenges, the APHA continues to focus on solutions and progress.

As Alberta's only independent voice for public health the APHA continues to have a unique role to play in not only supporting and strengthen fulsome shared leadership approaches required to take action on the determinants of health but also support a shift in public discourse on the importance and value of public health in Alberta. We look forward to maintaining this focus into the coming year.

Respectfully submitted by Angeline Webb, President

1. The context of the event was developed, in part, due to three commentaries published in the Canadian Journal of Public Health (Potvin 2014; Guyon et al. 2017; Hancock 2018). Indications of the weakening of public health include: • Downgrading the status of public health within governments and health authorities; • Limiting public health scope by combining it with primary care; • Decreasing funding for public health; • The neoliberal agenda and individualism Public Health is defined as "the art and science of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society" (Last 2001).

2. Advancing public health in Alberta: Notes from the 2018 Campus Alberta Health Outcomes and Public Health Conference - In Defense of Public Health: Strengthening our Discipline and Building Influence. Report prepared by Cynthia Weijs & Kristyn Berry in conjunction with the 2017-2018 APHA Board of Directors.

Governance Committee Report

The Board of Directors sets the direction and policy for the APHA, and is supported by the Governance Committee for activities relating to organizational bylaws, policies & procedures, board nomination, orientation, and evaluation. The Committee meets up to six times per year, and welcomes contributions from members with expertise or interest in not-for-profit governance.

The 2018-2019 fiscal year was one of stabilization as changes to the organizational By-Laws and review of Policies & Procedures were done in the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 fiscal years. Our Policies and Procedures are scheduled for another review in the upcoming fiscal year.

Three new Board members strengthened the existing Board members skills and representation.

A package was finalized and circulated to support the orientation of new board members to organizational objectives (vision, mission), history, bylaws, policies & procedures, recent activities, current strategic plans as well as committee roles and responsibilities.

A Skills/Gap Matrix was established to support the recruitment of nominees that best complement the current mix of qualifications/skills/experience and diversity of the current Board. This Matrix was used to recruit new board members.

Respectfully submitted by,
Aslam Bhatti, Director-at-Large
Angeline Webb, President

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) Treasurer's Report for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. To accompany this report, please find attached the APHA Financial Statements (March 31, 2019) and a memorandum confirming the financial audits were performed by two members of the APHA.

The Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) continues operations as a voluntary organization without government funding. However, we continue to provide services to our members, support the public health community and maintain general operations.

In the 2018-2019 fiscal year the APHA completed year-end filing to Alberta Registries for ongoing Societies Act registration, completed year-end filing of Registered Charity Information Return to the Canada Revenue Agency, maintained membership subscription and renewal and supported public health advocacy as well as collaborative stakeholder public health initiatives.

At the beginning of 2018-2019 fiscal year APHA held an operating balance of \$13,419.54. The APHA continues to be cognizant of financial constraints, with a year-end operating balance of \$12,320.26. Our revenue was \$3,333.00 and our expenses equaled \$4,109.00 for the fiscal year. The APHA registered a deficit for the 2018-2019 fiscal year with a deficit balance of \$-776.00. We would like to highlight that fees related to archiving our extensive historical records (costs in 2018-2019 FY \$855) will no longer be an ongoing expense in the upcoming fiscal year due to the donation of the APHA archive materials to the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

The APHA fiscal reserves are within a long-term renewable GIC investment \$15,685.42 and retained within the T-Bill savings account \$927.42. Our total reserve at the end of the fiscal year was \$16,612.84.

The APHA also managed flow-through grants for the John Waters Memorial Fund (John Waters Memorial Award and John Waters Memorial Scholarship). This account was managed by APHA up until March of 2019, when JWMF requested to withdrawal and transfer the funds to the University of Alberta. This account had a balance of \$35,977.60 at time of withdraw and transfer. The University of Alberta will now administer the funds on an ongoing basis. As a result of this change, it was identified that the balance of deferred flow-through donation was understated by \$10,000.00 due to donations income recorded in 2016. The adjustment of \$11,048.21 was made to unrestricted Net Assets as of March 31, 2019 to reflect the actual income from deferred flow-through donation.

Also, of note, due to significant and ongoing complications with an online payment management system, the Board motioned to shift to an alternative online payment management platform. This process took the better part of our fiscal year and impacted APHA revenue due to the inaccessibility of our online membership payment services. This issue has now been resolved.

In the upcoming fiscal year, APHA will continue to rely on membership contributions as a funding source. We will continue to explore opportunities to increase and diversify APHA funding. The Board is enthusiastic in exploring opportunities to build sustainable revenue in order to support Alberta's public health community.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kristyn Berry, Treasurer

Issues, Partnerships & Funding Committee Report

This committee leads the identification of priorities for action by the association and coordinates collaborative efforts and activities on those priority areas. This committee is also responsible for assisting the APHA in achieving its funding goals and objectives as well as maintaining and supporting collaborative leadership outcomes through strategic initiatives and partnerships that are aligned with our overall vision. The APHA was involved in a number of public issues-related and collaborative partnership activities during the 2018-2019 fiscal year in an effort to support individuals and organizations working to improve public health in Alberta and Canada.

In the fall of 2018, the APHA joined the Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) in [speaking out against racism](#) through a media and public engagement initiative. The APHA participated in the launch of the CPHA [position statement](#) which highlighted and called for action on advocacy recommendations for the elimination of racist and oppressive systems, laws, regulations and policies in Canada's public institutions and society in general. Also, of note, the APHA will work to review and work to establish processes that support these recommendations.

The APHA acknowledges that addressing the determinants of today's public health challenges requires an engaged and informed citizenry as well as invested and knowledgeable policymakers. A best practice component in adequately engaging policymakers includes impacting the political discourse regarding public health during an election cycle. With this in mind the APHA collaborated with key public health stakeholders, including the O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary, the Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention and the Canadian Public Health Association with support from other provincial public health organizations in the implementation of an **all-party candidate forum** during the 2019 Alberta provincial election. With the development and launch of [Public Health Matters - a Healthy Alberta Through Healthier Policies](#) initiative Alberta's main political parties were engaged to participate in a public forum to discuss the state of public health in Alberta and provide solutions to reduce health disparities, improve the physical and mental health as well as the economic well-being of all Albertans. Engaged candidates were asked to discuss areas related to infectious disease immunization, household food insecurity, universal and affordable childcare, supervised consumption sites and intersectoral collaboration for health. Other areas of focus were related to climate change, safe and affordable housing and reducing youth tobacco use. A website and primer were developed to inform political parties, candidates, voters, the media, policymakers and the public regarding the root causes of the public health challenges facing Alberta and the need to use a societal lens as well as upstream policy approaches to address these challenges. Outcomes from the initiative included:

- Participation of 3 political parties including the Alberta Liberal Party (David Khan – party leader), Alberta New Democrats (Anne McGrath) and the Alberta Party (Beth Barberree). The Alberta United Conservative Party did not participate.
- 167 people attended the event in person.
- Social media outcomes included Facebook Live feed of 912 views and Twitter hashtag: #abvotepublichealth trended number two in Calgary and top 10 in Alberta with 97,714 accounts reached.
- Traditional media reach was 135,631 impressions with media coverage from all major markets.

A special thank you to the O'Brien Institute for Public Health at the University of Calgary for their collaborative approach and generous support.

The APHA played a lead role in coordinating and preparing a **collective submission**, including representatives of all provincial/territorial and the national public health associations, to the Canadian Journal of Public Health. That paper, titled "*A collective voice for advancing public health: why public health associations matter today*" is published in Volume 110(3) of the CJPH, and is available here: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.17269/s41997-019-00197-1>. This submission is part of a Special Section of the CJPH on *Why public health matters today*; the full issue is available here: <https://link.springer.com/journal/41997/110/3>

Following the completion of the **APHA History Project** (please see project output posted on the APHA website, www.apha.ab.ca), we arranged to re-locate all of our recent association archives, which had been in a storage facility in Calgary, to the Provincial Archives of Alberta (the re-location happened in May 2019). Now, the full collection of APHA hard copy archival materials will be in one place and available to anyone for viewing.

In May 2019 we were invited to partner with **Upstream** (www.thinkupstream.net) on an Expression of Interest that they submitted to the Canadian Climate Narratives Initiative Grant Stream. We are excited that this might represent the beginning of an ongoing partnership with *Upstream*.

In May of 2019, the APHA participated in the Basic Income Calgary **MAKE IT B.I.G public forum** that supported multi-sectoral stakeholder engagement and mobilization regarding basic income policy in Alberta. The purpose of the forum was to create and support the development a formal network of basic income action groups across Alberta who can work together and advocate for a principles-based basic income pilot in our province. The APHA, lead by Dr. Katrina Milaney, administered a session at the forum: *Building a policy strategy and policy ask towards a basic income approach for Alberta*. The APHA will be working with Basic Income Calgary to compile an outcomes report that we hope will support the development of evidence-informed basic income policy recommendations for Alberta.

Partnerships

Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention

APHA member Cynthia Weijs, PhD represents APHA on Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention (APCCP). The APCCP's focus is policy and its role is to link healthy public policy to action in communities, through capacity building, resource support and development and community engagement. APCCPs Strategic Priorities for 2018 included:

- Advocate for social policy to reduce the prevalence of household food insecurity in Alberta
- Advocate for mandated, resourced, and monitored implementation of healthy food and beverage guidelines in recreational facilities based on the Alberta Nutrition Guidelines
- Advocate for an active transportation plan for Alberta schools
- Promote student nutrition through a comprehensive school health lens

The APHA regularly works to support the initiatives of the APCCP.

Alberta Recreation & Parks Association

APHA member Michelle Kilborn, PhD represents APHA in engagement with the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association (ARPA).

APHA has a partnership agreement with ARPA and regularly attends and participates in the year ARPA's yearly conference. In 2018 the ARPA Conference theme was *Partners in Progress*. The conference which highlighted pre-conference events, several keynote speakers, and over 40 sessions—including Indigenous-focused sessions, *Connecting through Research* stream and *Energize Workshop*.

After two years of working to strengthen our partnership with ARPA, the APHA took a stronger role in the conference. Michelle Kilborn joined the conference organizing committee where opportunities for knowledge sharing and ways to promote common visions between organizations were explored. In the past, it was very evident that most of the issues being discussed at ARPA are fundamental public health issues. At the core, presenters were focused on health promotion and what can be done to impact the social determinants of health. Therefore, the focus of APHA and ARPA this year was to highlight the synergies between public health, recreation, active living and communities.



Our main activities at the conference included presenting one keynote address and two concurrent sessions (see session descriptions below). Michelle's keynote, titled *We are ALL Public Health* was delivered at the Energize Workshop. This is a forum for everyone from elected officials to community volunteers to exchange and share knowledge regarding contributions to healthy communities. This was an important opportunity for APHA to make connections with municipal and community leaders about the goals of public health and how we can better collaborate to work on our common goals for promoting and protecting the health of Albertans. The concepts in the keynote were repeated in the session during the main conference where delegates also spent time in discussion groups to focus on how to build connections with other sectors, understand common visions among multiple partners, and discuss common messaging for promoting health and wellbeing across all organizations.

APHA also provided leadership on the topic of cannabis legalization. Michelle provided a general overview session, titled *Cannabis in our Communities*. This session looked at the current status of cannabis legalization, health effects of cannabis and potential impacts on public health from legalization. In addition, APHA put forward a resolution at the ARPA Annual General Meeting that ARPA encourage the Government of Alberta and local municipalities to prohibit public consumption in all public parks and apply strict regulations for outdoor public events. This resolution was passed by the ARPA membership.

Conference Session Descriptions:

We are ALL Public Health: Recreation, parks, and public health all have common goals of fostering community and environmental well-being. In this session we will discuss our collective responsibility for population health, and the need for making connections at all levels and across sectors to promote and protect the health and wellness of citizens. We will look at the synergies between strategies, policies and programs, as well as ideas for partnership and collaborative action to help make our communities more active and healthy.

Cannabis in our Communities: Cannabis legalization in Canada is a hot topic with many layers and complexities. Much of the debate has been about how to legalize responsibly and just what the consequences of legalization may be. How did we get here, where are we now and how will communities be able to navigate this new landscape as we move forward? In this session we will look at the current state of legalization of cannabis in Alberta, review some of the health effects of cannabis and explore some suggestions about minimizing potential health and social harms in our communities.

A special thank you to Michelle Kilborn for her leadership and participation in engaging with ARPA.

Respectfully submitted by,
Lindsay McLaren, Director-at-Large
Angeline Webb, President

Membership & Communications Committee Report

We are pleased to present the Membership and Communications Report for 2018-2019. APHA's Membership and Communications Committee has two primary roles: (1) to manage and grow memberships, and (2) to facilitate the engagement of APHA members with relevant information.

MEMBERSHIP

APHA had a total of 126 members as of March 31, 2019. About 84 percent of our memberships are conjoint with the CPHA. The following chart summarizes our current membership:

APHA Membership March 31, 2019		
Membership Type	Number of Members	Fee Paid
Honourary	6	No fee
APHA Direct - Regular	8	\$50
APHA Direct - Retired	1	\$22
APHA Direct - Student	5	\$22
Total Direct	20	
CPHA Conjoint - Regular	61	\$50
CPHA Conjoint - Retired	13	\$22
CPHA Conjoint - Student	32	\$22
Total Conjoint	106	
TOTAL	126	
<i>Total Regular</i>	<i>69</i>	
<i>Total Retired</i>	<i>14</i>	
<i>Total Student</i>	<i>37</i>	
Fee Notes		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Honourary Members pay no fees. APHA Direct members pay fees directly to APHA. CPHA Conjoint members pay fees to CPHA, and CPHA then forwards \$50 to us. (Conjoint payments show as 'free' in Wild Apricot because no payment transaction is entered into the Wild Apricot system.) Conjoint fees: regular is \$250, student is \$90 and retired is \$97. 		

Membership Value

The M&C committee again assessed potential corporate partnerships to help retain existing memberships and incentivize new memberships. All potential corporate partnerships we review must: (a) be at no cost, (b) be sustainable with minimal volunteer resources, and (c) not compromise the integrity of APHA's public health principles.

In January 2019, APHA partnered with Economical Insurance to offer special group pricing on home and auto insurance to our members. APHA direct members now receive the identical discount rate offered to CPHA members.

Economic Insurance is APHA's third corporate partnership, joining Broadway Across Canada (2018) and Costco (2017).

Our committee is now targeting fitness facilities with the hope of concluding another corporate partnership this coming year.

COMMUNICATIONS

M&C Committee members helped several communication initiatives for APHA in the past year.

- a. **Newsletter:** Four newsletters were emailed to APHA members over the past 12 months: May 2018, August 2018, November 2018 and February 2019.
- b. **Website:** There were no major changes to the APHA website this year.
- c. **Member Events:** There were no member events in the past year.
- d. **Social Media:** We made modest progress in the past year to expand APHA's connectivity and influence via social media tools. Here are our latest comparative statistics:

APHA Followers vs. Following		
Facebook	2018 (April 30)	2019 (May 27)
Followers	88	119
Following (Likes)	Unknown	96
Twitter		
Followers	219	243
Following	Unknown	274
LinkedIn		
Followers	59	82
Following	0	0

APHA Social Media Activity					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Facebook	53	74	6	3	4
Twitter	13	42	4	47	7
LinkedIn	0	0	0	0	0

Note: Activity is defined as all posts and reposts within a calendar year.

SUMMARY

The past fiscal year has been a period of best-effort sustainability for the under-resourced M&C Committee.

For much of the year there was no online ability for new members to join—due to APHA’s prolonged technical issues with PayPal—so any new membership initiatives were impractical.

There were also few communication initiatives this past year, beyond the four newsletters, due to diminishing resource limitations.

It is my hope that we can recruit more volunteers to assist with membership and communication projects as our committee is very aware of many unrealized opportunities.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my deep appreciation and utmost respect for each M&C committee member in 2018-19 (in alphabetical order):

- Angeline Webb
- Chelsea Tan
- Lindsay McLaren
- Qendresa Beka
- Zainab Suleman

I also want to acknowledge the unheralded day-to-day role of APHA members Cathy Gladwin and Amy Beck for managing our online APHA membership transactions for those months we were able to accept payments. As well, thanks to Cynthia Weijs for help on our Facebook postings.

Respectfully submitted by,
 Kenn Bur, Director-at-Large
 Chair, Membership & Communications Committee



Student Committee Report

The Student Committee is responsible for promoting student membership in the Association and planning and executing student public health initiatives. This committee works to:

- 1) Recruits students with a public health interest for General and Board Membership of the Association, as well as inviting them to participate in Work Groups.
- 2) Organize and facilitate public health initiatives tailored for students, including presentations and webinars discussing the opportunities available for volunteering and employment within public health.
- 3) Connects with and engages students in public health initiatives of the Association and encouraging them to participate in Committee activities (e.g., helping to facilitate and attend presentations and webinars)
- 4) Acts as a liaison between the Board and students; responding to student inquiries and connecting students with relevant Work Groups and/or Board Members of the Association.

The 2018-2019 fiscal year was a time of transition for the student committee. The committee chair Ali Walker – was on parental leave starting in the fall of 2018. Before Ali’s leave, the student committee met monthly with its members which consisted of Kenda Swanson (Chair, Secretary), Ashley Drobot (APHA Director at Large), and Michelle Kilborn (APHA member).

The student committee was intimately involved in planning for the 2018 Campus Alberta Health Outcomes and Public Health Annual conference. The committee worked with the APHA Board to ensure there was some student representation at the conference.

Since the fall of 2018 the chair position has been vacant until spring 2019, when Temi Famuyide (APHA Director at Large) joined the student committee and is currently the co-chair together with Angeline Webb (APHA President). In the upcoming fiscal year Temi and Angeline hope to work on defining the goals for the student committee with a particular focus on increasing APHA student engagement.

Respectfully submitted by
Temi Famuyide, Director-at-Large
Angeline Webb, President