



Alberta Public Health Association

Annual Report 2011/12

Alberta Public Health Association
c/o ACICR, 4075 RTF, 8308-114 Street
Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1
www.apha.ab.ca

About APHA

The Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) has over 65 years of history working in public health. It was established in 1943 and was incorporated as a registered charitable organization in 1955.

APHA is the provincial affiliate of the Canadian Public Health Association and works closely with other provincial and territorial public health organizations across Canada.

Membership in APHA is open to any individual or group who is interested in promoting and protecting the health of the public. APHA is a leader, voice and catalyst in promotion and protecting the health of the public through advocacy, partnerships and education. Our members are a diverse group with an interest in:

- Health protection
- Disease and injury prevention
- Health promotion
- Determinants of health

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

APHA Vision and Mission

APHA Vision

APHA's vision for Alberta is a province in which all people have the freedom to lead healthy lives they have reason to value.

APHA Mission

The Alberta Public Health Association is a provincial not-for-profit association representing public health in Alberta whose mission is to improve health and reduce health inequities.

What We Do

APHA works to achieve its mission by

- providing leadership on issues affecting the public's health
- strengthening the impact of those who promote and protect the health of the public
- advocating on issues that affect health
- providing educational and networking opportunities
- providing mechanisms to seek and discuss issues and views of members and the public
- providing expertise and consultation in public and community health.

APHA 2011/12 Board of Directors

President

Dr. Kim Raine

Dr. Kim Raine is a Professor in the Centre for Health Promotion Studies, School of Public Health, University of Alberta. A nutritionist by profession, she is a career researcher supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Heart & Stroke Foundation of Canada, and Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. Her research interests involve environmental, community and policy interventions to promote healthy weights and prevent chronic diseases.

President-Elect

Dr. PK (Tish) Doyle-Baker

Dr. Doyle-Baker is a doctor of public health (Dr. PH) and a clinical exercise physiologist (CSEP-CEP) at the University of Calgary. She is an associate professor in the Faculty of Kinesiology with an adjunct associate professorship in the Faculty of Environmental Design. Her interests are in the epidemiologic investigation of prevalent health outcomes, most notably obesity and fatty liver disease. Her focus is on how biometrics are impacted positively through lifestyle behaviours and the built environment. She teaches two courses at the university level that revolve around the epidemiology of public health and physical activity. Dr. Doyle-Baker enjoys communicating research findings to multiple audiences and has experience communicating research and knowledge through the media. She was the 2010 keynote speaker for the yearly Physical Activity Forum in Alberta.

Treasurer

Patricia Paton

Patricia Paton works for Alberta Health Services, based in Edmonton, AB, as a Knowledge Management Consultant. She began her involvement with the Alberta Public Health Association in 2007, when she worked with the Summer School as a facilitator. She is currently enrolled in the Masters in Communications and Technology program at the University of Alberta.

Secretary

Jacqueline Schnider

Jacqueline Schnider has been a Health Educator with Alberta Health Services for the past 13 years. She has a Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada), a Diploma in Environmental Health BCIT 1987, a Bachelor of Science Degree, Augustana University College 1993, and a Certificate in Adult Education, Mount Royal College, 2002. She is also a Distinguished Toastmaster with Toastmasters International. As well as serving on the Alberta Public Health Association she is a board member for Toastmasters International and the Environmental Health Foundation of Canada.

Public Issues Committee Chair

Cathy Gladwin

Cathy Gladwin has been employed as the Policy Analyst at the Alberta Centre for Injury Control and Research since 1998 where she researches policy initiatives that can reduce injury and advocate for their adoption by government. She graduated with a Master of Science in Health Promotion from the University of Alberta in 2007. Her thesis work was in the area of public policy and physical activity in schools. She has been a member of the APHA and CPHA for over 10 years.

Membership Committee Chair

Farah Bandali

Farah Bandali is the Manager of Primary Prevention, responsible for leading provincial childhood obesity prevention and early intervention initiatives in Health Promotion, Disease and Injury Prevention, Alberta Health Services. She is a registered dietitian, practicing for over 17 years in a variety of roles and settings from the private sector to health services and has led a number of health promotion and disease prevention initiatives and areas with local and provincial scopes (some examples are Community Development, Public Participation, Obesity Prevention, School Health Promotion, Public Health Nutrition). Farah is a graduate of University of Alberta where she completed her undergraduate (Dietetics) and graduate (MSc in Nutrition and Metabolism) degrees.

Communications Committee Chair**Dr. Cheryl Currie**

Dr. Cheryl Currie is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Lethbridge. Her work is oriented toward the social, economic, and cultural forces that shape public health in Canada with a particular interest in Aboriginal health, community-engagement, and the development of healthy public policy.

Student Committee Chair**Elaine Hyshka**

Elaine Hyshka is a PhD student in the Addiction and Mental Health Research Laboratory at the University of Alberta's School of Public Health. Her doctoral research focuses on population health interventions for preventing harmful substance use, and is supported by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research and Alberta Innovates: Health Solutions. Elaine previously completed a Masters of Arts in Sociology and a Certificate in Addiction Studies from the University of Toronto.

Member-at-Large**Shannon Doram**

Shannon Doram is VP Health and Wellness at YMCA Calgary. She has an undergraduate degree in Kinesiology and Masters of Science in Health Promotion, along with experience working in public, private and non-profit health promotion roles. Shannon is currently leading the development of YMCA's Health and Wellness strategy, as well as a new model for wellness at Calgary's South Health Campus YMCA.

Member-at-Large**Dr. Gavin McCormack**

Dr. Gavin McCormack is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary. His research focus is on the physical and social environmental determinants of physical activity and other health behaviours among adults and children.

Member-at-Large**Dr. Raphael Lencucha**

Dr. Raphael Lencucha is Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Public Health Program, at the University of Lethbridge. His primary area of interest is the intersection of politics, economics, civil society, and public health. Much of his research has focused on the development of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, (FCTC) the first global public health treaty to be negotiated within the World Health Organization structure. He is particularly interested in the involvement of civil society organizations during the development of the FCTC and is currently examining the implementation and enforcement of the FCTC in low- and middle-income countries.

Member-at-Large**Brenda Cantin**

Brenda Cantin has recently retired as a Registered Nurse (MN) after 40 years of employment. She has had experience in rural and northern settings and has worked in the community, hospital, as well as, within government and the university. When she retired she held the position of Regional Director of the Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta/NWT Region. She has been active in both the Alberta and Manitoba Public Health Associations in previous years.

President's Report

I am pleased to present the 2011-2012 annual President's report to the members of the Alberta Public Health Association (APHA).

Despite being a 100% voluntary organization, APHA has managed accomplishments through the continued commitment of public health expert practitioners on the Board, and in the membership.

Most noteworthy have been our successful projects including:

- APHA completed a facilitated strategic planning process with Hope Development. The purpose was to explore how, in the face of our limited financial resources how APHA can serve its members. This included priority setting and focus around our core mission and values, as well as a plan for reaching our goals. As a board, we identified our core purpose as:

“Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) members ... provide the only independent Alberta voice devoted specifically to public health and wellness. As the voice of public health, APHA can speak out on issues that impact the health of Albertans in a much different way than can APHA members who are provincial, municipal or university employees. We provide leadership on issues affecting the health and well-being of all Albertans. ...”

Over the next year the board will be asking for member input on priority advocacy/ action areas. In order to support this work, we will also be seeking ways of increasing membership and increasing revenue.

APHA brings strength to a number of coalitions, and can advance the work of coalitions by being an independent voice. For example, we have active membership in the following coalitions and networks with common goals:

- Provincial Advisory Committee on Tobacco (Klaus Irrgang - rep)
- Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention (Kim Raine – rep)
- Network of Provincial/ Territorial Alliances for Chronic Disease Prevention (Secretariat-CDPAC). (Kim Raine-rep),
- Public Health Knowledge Translation Network (Secretariat-National Collaborating Centre on Public Health Methods and Tools). (Trish Paton-rep)
- *Indoor Tanning is Out* Coalition (seeking legislation to limit access to tanning beds for minors) (Cheryl Currie & Cathy Gladwin - reps)
- Provincial Gambling Advisory Committee (Cheryl Currie – rep)

One very successful project in which APHA participated, was a pre-election *All-Party Forum on the Health of Albertans*, organized by the Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention. As APHA President, I had the pleasure of serving as moderator for the only known Forum devoted to prevention and wellness. APHA also participated in advocacy for a Wellness Foundation in Alberta as part of the Coalition.

- APHA collaborated with the PHABC in a proposal funded by the McConnell Foundation for *Growing Farm to Cafeteria in Canada; Sowing the Seeds For Sustained Success*. This proposal addresses food security by linking local farmers with school and workplace cafeterias. APHA received funds for coordinating AB operations.
- Continued a monthly e-mail list-serve to communicate with APHA members (Hosted by University of Alberta)

- Developed an e-mail list-serve to communicate with APHA student members (Hosted by University of Alberta)
- Began a process of revamping the APHA website to enable easier website management and updates. The new website should be live in the very near future!
- As the local host, APHA participated in the CPHA 2012 Conference Planning Committee and led local arrangements. Board members Trish Paton and Cheryl Currie served on the planning committee, while Kim Raine served as Scientific Chair. Many APHA board members also contributed their time and expertise, and will serve as conference volunteers and hosts at the APHA booth this week. Many thanks to those who contributed to making the conference a success.

None of these accomplishments would not have happened without the provision of time, talent and funds of members and organizations. Thank you to everyone who has contributed time and expertise. This marks the end of my three-year term as APHA President. Although I wish the circumstances would have been different, with sufficient resources to accomplish the many excellent ideas we dreamed together, I am very proud of the accomplishments we were able to achieve. I have been deeply honoured to have served the membership as President. It has been a huge privilege to serve an amazing organization that I have benefitted from since my move to Alberta over a decade ago. I will always cherish the memories of the work we did together and the friendships that we formed will last well beyond the term of service. Thanks to an incredible board for making the journey both meaningful, and fun!

Respectfully submitted,
Kim Raine, PhD, RD
APHA President 2009-2012

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for 2011/12.

As we continue to be a fully voluntary organization, we are not as active as we would like to be, but we continued to provide service to our members and to maintain our general operations:

- Continue to manage flow-through grants for the John Waters Memorial Fund (John Waters Memorial Award and John Waters Memorial Scholarship).
- Completed year-end filing to Alberta Registries for ongoing Societies Act registration, and to Canada Revenue Agency Registered Charity Information Return filing.
- Web site continues to provide secure on line membership subscription/renewal.

As a Board member, I have represented APHA through 2011-12 on a national initiative led by the Public Health Agency of Canada's National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools (NCCMT), the *Public Health Knowledge Translation Network*. Over 25 organizations (provincial, national, and profession-specific) participate in quarterly teleconference meetings. The purpose of this network is "To provide a forum for public health organizations and other related organizations to collaborate on the promotion and use of evidence-informed public health (EIPH) and knowledge translation (KT)".

For 2011/12, I was also pleased to represent the Association to the Conference Steering Committee of the Canadian Public Health Association, the conference we are enjoying this week. It was a great pleasure to assist in the development of this week's events.

Our partnership with the Public Health Association of British Columbia provided additional revenue in 2011/12 and in 2012/13. However, the organization will face challenges in the next few years to increase revenue.

As I step down from the Treasurer's position, I must say it has been a challenging time for the organization, but I believe that APHA will continue to progress. The Board is active and enthusiastic, and I hope some of our members here today will approach a committee chair and take up more activity with this group. I have enjoyed my time on the Board and with APHA, and I wish everyone well.

Respectfully submitted,
Trish (Patricia) Paton

2011/12

2011/12 APHA Budget	2012/13 Budget	2011/12 Actuals
Opening Balance April 1, 2011		
Operating		\$16,639.70
Revenues		
Provincial Grant	\$0	\$0
Other Grants	\$2,250.00	\$1250.00
AGM/Summer School	\$0	\$0
Projects	\$0	\$0
Membership Fees	\$5,000.00	\$4336.65
Other	\$0	\$0
Interest income		\$0
Total Revenues	\$7,250.00	\$5586.65
Expenses		
Other Personnel	\$0	\$0
President/Board/ED Expenses	\$4,000	\$5,312.71
AGM/Summer School	\$1,000	\$0
Board Teleconference	\$1,000	\$636.41
Web Support	\$3,000	\$1,417.50
Bookkeeping and Audit	\$2,500	\$2,415.00
Insurance	\$1,000	\$936.00
Archiving	\$100	\$96.83
Administrative Costs	\$300	\$36.97
Consultant (strategic planning)	\$0	\$5,500.00
Project expenses	\$0	\$0
Total Expenses	\$12,900.00	\$16,351.42
Projected Balance at Year End	\$(5,650.00)	

Public Issues Committee Report

At the AGM in the autumn of 2011 the Issues and Actions Committee was renamed the Public Issues Committee. The Committee was involved in the following activities since the last AGM:

Anti-Tanning Advocacy Group

Cheryl Currie, Communications Chair, played a large and active role as chair of the Anti-Tanning Advocacy Group, a sub-group of the Indoor Tanning is Out Coalition. In March 2011, these duties were transitioned to the Public Issues Committee Chair. The Group continues to develop its strategic plan to advocate for provincial legislation to prevent minors from using artificial tanning equipment. Since the issue was raised with Alberta Health and Wellness, the department is undertaking a review of the evidence regarding the risks of artificial tanning. The Advocacy Group will be prepared to act when the results of the review are made available.

Alberta Breast Feeding Committee

The Public Issues Committee remains in contact with the Alberta Breast Feeding Committee and will continue to share its information and updates with the APHA membership.

Resolutions at the 2012 AGM

Three resolutions have been received for consideration by the membership at the 2012 AGM. These are:

- Banning Indoor Tanning for Youth Under 18 Years of Age
- Reducing Alcohol Related Harm in Alberta
- Supporting the Creation of a Wellness Foundation in Alberta.

Other resolutions will be accepting from the floor. Acting on the resolutions will form the core of the work for the Public Issues Committee in the coming term.

Respectfully submitted:
Cathy Gladwin, Chair

Membership Committee Report

It is a pleasure to present the Membership Chair's report for 2011/12. Membership in APHA is open to any individual or group who is interested in promoting and protecting the health of the public. As of June 2012, APHA reports a membership of 224 members with individuals representing areas across Alberta. We expect to have many renewals and new memberships as a result of the CPHA conference in Edmonton this year. Forms will be provided at the Annual General Meeting to facilitate membership recruitment.

There were a number of challenges associated with re-organization of the membership database and membership processes this past year. However the Committee has determined a plan to ensure a sustainable approach to maintaining the database and ensuring membership information is kept current and relevant.

A challenge for membership continues to be membership recruitment. The goal this year is to review and update some of the membership procedures (such as the term of membership) that will facilitate effective maintenance of the database. An organized and current database will allow the committee to determine the make up of the current membership, gaps in representation across disciplines and areas such as health services, policy and decision makers, government departments, non-government organizations and students, and inform strategies for recruitment.

Respectfully submitted,
Farah Bandali

Communications Committee Report

It is a pleasure to present the Communications Chair's report for 2011-12. In the past year the APHA has moved to remodel its website to better serve its members and the public health community. The launch of the new site is planned for mid-2012.

In 2011-12, the APHA continued to communicate public health-related issues and events to its members by developing and distributing a public health e-newsletter to all members (managed by Dr. Kim Raine) and a separate student e-newsletter (managed by Elaine Hyshka).

In the past year, APHA also focused on lending its voice to a number of public health initiatives including:

- A letter to the Council of the Federation and all its members about the importance of strengthening health in Canada by strengthening public health in collaboration with the Canadian Network of Public Health Associations
- A letter and briefing note to all Alberta MLAs regarding the public health implications of permitting minors to engage in indoor artificial UV tanning in collaboration with the Canadian Cancer Society and the Melanoma Society of Canada.
- A letter and briefing note to the Minister of Health regarding the public health implications of permitting minors to engage in indoor artificial UV tanning in partnership with the Canadian Cancer Society and the Melanoma Society of Canada.

APHA is also lending its voice to the promotion of responsible gambling in Alberta as a member of the new Responsible Gambling Advisory Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Currie

APHA has purchased the rights to Unnatural Causes

“Call To Action”

Alberta Public Health Association (APHA)

THE VOICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Alberta Public Health Association (APHA) members – public health professionals including doctors, nurses, health inspectors, health promoters, academics and concerned citizens -- provide the only independent Alberta voice devoted specifically to public health and wellness. As the voice of public health, APHA can speak out on issues that impact the health of Albertans in a much different way than can APHA members who are provincial, municipal or university employees. We provide leadership on issues affecting the health and well-being of all Albertans. We also provide educational opportunities for health professionals and others.

HEALTH RENEWAL

APHA's October 2008 "Think Tank on Public Health Renewal in Alberta" provided the only opportunity for a wider public consultation process to strengthen public health services within the province during the critically important period of the restructuring of our health system. To update Albertans, APHA is holding a follow-up event with telehealth videoconferencing on May 1, 2009, "Keeping Alberta on Track – Public Health Renewal in Alberta".

KEEP ALBERTA ON TRACK

Although APHA just had its funding eliminated by the Alberta Government, APHA is determined to "keep Alberta on track" on public health issues. We have launched a campaign for new memberships and citizen financial support to ensure we can do this effectively. To join APHA or make a donation see: <http://www.apha.ab.ca>

NEW COALITION

APHA is developing a coalition of supporters and a framework for public health as a basis for action to reduce preventable disease and death, including:

- Developing a business case for increased investment in wellness, including collaborating with other groups on the creation of a provincial health promotion foundation,
- Developing model health impact assessment legislation, similar to a provision in Quebec's Public Health Act which requires government agencies to ensure that the legislative provisions they adopt do not adversely affect the health of the population
- Publishing an annual report card profiling Alberta's progress in reducing preventable disease and deaths,
- Implementing a media strategy to increase public awareness of public health and the determinants of health,
- Facilitating the provision of accessible, accredited continuing education workshops for the public health workforce.

JOIN WITH US TODAY!

JOHN WATERS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

As a representative on the John Waters Memorial Committee (JWMC), it is indeed a pleasure to report our activities for 2011-12 to the Alberta Public Health Association (APHA). The committee was established to honor the memory of Dr. John Waters, an acknowledged expert in public health and a pioneer in population based immunization programs. For more than 20 years, Dr. Waters was the Director of Communicable Disease Control and Epidemiology, Alberta Health and Wellness. He died in 2001 and left an outstanding legacy in public health.

The original funding for the John Waters Memorial Award was received from many individual donations and a grant of \$25,000 from Alberta Health and Wellness. The JWMC committee has been functioning continuously since 2002 and facilitates the following awards and lectureships to honor Dr. Waters: 1) The national lectureship at the Canadian Immunization Conferences held bi-annually, 2) A University of Alberta graduate student scholarship of \$1000 and 3) A biannual Dr. John Waters Memorial Award of \$2000 for an individual who best meets the late Dr. John Waters' vision and leadership in the field of public health.

Since the last APHA report in September 2011, two meetings of the JWMC were held on November 4, 2011 and May 1, 2012. Agnes Honish, a former associate of Dr. Waters and Member at Large, chaired the Committee meetings. During this time, we had a temporary replacement for Anne Bates, secretariat. This position was covered by Darlene Spelten (who had just accepted another position outside of Alberta Health and Wellness) and most recently – Tricia Prodaniuk. At the May 1, 2012 meeting – we welcomed Anne Bates back from her leave. Thank you to Darlene and Tricia for their support in the secretariat role in Anne's absence. We also formerly welcomed, Donna Koch – Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) representative. Current members include Agnes Honish (member at large), Anne Bates (Secretariat, Alberta Health and Wellness), Rashmi Joshee, (Public Health Agency of Canada), Dr. Richard Musto (Council of Medical Officers of Health), Dr. John O'Gorman (member at large), Dr. Bryce Larke (CPS representative), Donna Koch (CPHA representative) and Sandy Phillips (APHA representative).

The JWMC endorsed Dr. Susan Tamblyn as the speaker for the John Waters Memorial Lecture at the Canadian Immunization Conference to be held on December 3, 2012 in Vancouver, BC. More details regarding the introduction of Dr. Tamblyn at the conference and her biography will be available this fall.

The recipient of the 2011 Dr. John Waters Graduate Scholarship is Ms Angela Lau. Ms Lau is a first year student enrolled in a Master's Program in the Department of Medicine. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in the Honours Immunology and Infection Program in 2010 at the University of Alberta. Ms Lau currently works under the supervision of Dr. Richard Long at the Tuberculosis Program Evaluation and Research Unit in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alberta.

The JWMC continues to appreciate the ongoing assistance provided by the APHA in administering the work of the JWMC.

Respectfully submitted
Sandy Phillips, May 7, 2012

THE DOCTOR JEAN C. NELSON MEMORIAL FOUNDATION REPORT – 2011

The Doctor Jean C. Nelson Memorial Foundation was founded in 1979 to honour Dr. Nelson's outstanding contribution to the province of Alberta. At the time of her death in 1979, Dr. Nelson was the Deputy Minister of Health for the Department of Social Services and Community Health, a position she had held for the previous four years. Many friends and organizations were so inspired by Dr. Nelson that a Foundation was created to manage the funds donated in her memory.

The membership of the Foundation consists of a Board of five Directors, four of whom shall be members in good standing of the Alberta Public Health Association. In 2011 the members were Sherri Wilson, Secretary; Gail Diachuk, Treasurer; Shannon Parker, Chair Selection Committee; Maryann Kusmirski, Director; and Neil MacDonald, Chairperson of the Board.

Since 1980, a bursary has been made available by the Foundation to assist a student who is pursuing graduate studies related to Community Health. The award has been granted to 31 individuals since its inception. Following a review of the applications by the Selection Committee and based upon their recommendation, the Board awarded the 2011 bursaries to Michelle Kilborn and Alysha Visram.

Ms. Kilborn completed her Masters of Arts at the University of Victoria in 1999. She completed a Bachelor of Education /Biological Sciences from the University of Victoria in 1993. She has been a member of the Alberta Public Health Association since 2010.

Ms. Kilborn plans to complete her doctoral program at the University of Alberta department of Secondary Education in August, 2014. Her area of research focus is Comprehensive School Health. She is a Senior Manager in Alberta Education and in this role, and others, has presented research findings as well as critical thinking papers on health promoting behaviours, school health indicators, physical and health education, comprehensive school health, student wellness and teacher education at provincial, national and international conferences. She led the development of the *Framework for Kindergarten to Grade 12 Wellness Education* which has integrated concepts of Comprehensive School Health into wellness education in the Province of Alberta.

Ms. Visram is currently enrolled in the Masters of Public Health program with a specialization in Health Promotion at the University of Alberta. She plans to complete this program in June of 2012 and has been a member of the Alberta Public Health Association since 2011.

Ms. Visram has been active within various student groups at the University of Alberta such as the School of Public Health's Student Association. She has also volunteered with Aga Khan Foundation Canada as Program Manager, Regional Vice Chair, Deputy Convenor – Global Village and Regional Evaluation Representative.

Ms. Visram has been employed as a Registered Nurse at a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and as a Public Health Nurse since May 2008. She wants to become an agent of change focusing on health advocacy, program development and promotion of healthy public policy. During her current studies she has developed interventions related to Aboriginal infant mortality, examined issues of food insecurity among Inuit populations in Canada's northern communities and childhood obesity and the built environment. She has also recently created an evaluation framework for a prenatal support and nutrition program offered in Alberta.

As Chair of the Board, I would like to thank the current and past Board members for their contribution to this Foundation. It is with regret, but given that the Foundation's funds have been depleted the Board is in the process of dissolving the Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,



Neil MacDonald

February 2, 2012