

Thank you for your interest in volunteering your time and expertise to support the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP), now operating as Public Health Ontario (PHO).

**About Public Health Ontario**

Established in 2007 pursuant to the *Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion Act* (the Act), PHO is an arm's-length government agency dedicated to protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians and reducing inequities in health. As a hub organization, PHO links public health practitioners, front-line health workers and researchers to the best scientific intelligence and knowledge from around the world.

PHO provides expert scientific and technical support relating to infection prevention and control; surveillance and epidemiology; health promotion, chronic disease and injury prevention; environmental and occupational health; health emergency preparedness; and public health laboratory services to support health providers, the public health system and partner ministries in making informed decisions and taking informed action to improve the health and security of Ontarians.

**Vision:** We will be an internationally recognized centre of expertise dedicated to protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians through the application and advancement of science and knowledge.

**Mission:** We are accountable to support health-care providers, the public health system and partner ministries in making informed decisions and taking informed action to improve the health and security of all Ontarians, through the transparent and timely provision of credible scientific advice and practical tools.

**Mandate:** To provide scientific and technical advice to those working to protect and promote the health of Ontarians.

**Goals:**

- **Information:** Provide timely, relevant, and reliable information for better public health decisions and actions.
- **Knowledge:** Generate and accelerate the uptake and application of current evidence-based knowledge in public health decisions and actions.
- **Support:** Provide high-quality support to the Ontario public health system in its daily business and enhance capacity in emergencies.



### **PHO Governance**

PHO is accountable to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) through the Chair of the Board of Directors. According to its enabling legislation, it operates as a separate legal entity from the government but within a broader accountability framework set in government directives and procedures.

PHO's board of directors has three standing committees: governance, audit and finance, and strategic planning.

The board is responsible for strategic planning and oversight of the organization. It ensures that PHO's strategic, business and operational plans, policies and activities are consistent with its legislated mandate, the needs of its public health partners, and government policy direction. PHO has the ability to communicate findings based on scientific and technical research and knowledge.

### **PHO Board of Directors**

The Act stipulates that the board may have up to 13 directors appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. At present, our board comprises 12 outstanding leaders:

- [Dr. Terrence Sullivan, chair](#)
- [Dr. Alan H. Meek, vice-chair](#)
- [Tony Dean](#)
- [Sandra Laclé](#)
- [Warren Law](#)
- [Dr. Richard Massé](#)
- [Dr. Liana Nolan](#)
- [Pierre Richard](#)
- [Janet Hatcher Roberts](#)
- [Dr. Ronald St. John](#)
- [Dr. David M.C. Walker](#)
- [Carole A. Weir](#)

### **Board Competencies**

Desirable competencies for board members, as affirmed by the board of directors, and as set out in the Act include:

1. **Governance Competencies:** Fundamental skills such as public accounting or related financial experience, legal, human resources, and corporate governance expertise. The PHO board may also include a lay person with demonstrated interest or experience in health issues.
2. **Public Health Program Expertise:** Skills and expertise in the areas covered by PHO's corporate objects. As PHO builds its organization to achieve its vision, mission, and objects, it is developing its teams within four programmatic areas and two essential overarching support areas. Knowledge of these public health program areas is critical within the board, both to enhance strategic decision-making and to identify partnership opportunities.
  - a. Chronic Disease, Injury Prevention and Health Promotion
  - b. Infectious Disease Prevention and Control

- c. Environmental and Occupational Health
  - d. Public Health Laboratories
  - e. Surveillance and Epidemiology
  - f. Emergency Management.
3. **Cross-Cutting Competencies:** PHO is designed as a matrix organization, with cross-cutting streams of activities that are integral to all public health programs. The organization strives to build capacity within these cross-cutting areas in support of each program area.
- a. Knowledge Exchange
  - b. Research
  - c. Information, data and privacy
  - d. Determinants of health
  - e. Public health practice
  - f. Public policy development.

### **Current Recruitment**

PHO is currently seeking two candidates with skills in one or more of the above competency areas.

### **Commitment**

Board members may be appointed for a two-year or three-year term. Membership is a part-time voluntary commitment. The board meets in person up to five times per year for full day meetings, with two or three additional teleconferences during the year. Board members also typically set aside half-day for preparation in advance of each in-person meeting.

It is expected that board members will sit on one standing committee. These standing committees meet quarterly for half-day session or teleconference.

### **Remuneration**

All expenses incurred while on board business are paid by PHO (e.g. travel, accommodation, meals). In addition, board members receive a daily stipend of \$200/day for attendance at any meeting as well as preparation time.

### **Application Process**

PHO board members are appointed by Order in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. PHO's governance committee will evaluate all potential candidates to make its recommendations to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care.

The board recruitment process is handled through the government's [Public Appointments Secretariat \(PAS\)](#) and must follow its review process.

### **Confirmation Process:**

Once PAS has received the recommendations, it takes approximately three to six months for an Order in Council to be confirmed.

For further information, to propose a candidate or to express interest, please contact Samir Khalil, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary at 647-260-7107 or [samir.khalil@oahpp.ca](mailto:samir.khalil@oahpp.ca).