



Ontario

**Agency for Health
Protection and Promotion**

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April 24, 2009

Memorandum To: Colleagues and Stakeholders
From: Vivek Goel, President and CEO
Subject: Leadership Appointment

As the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHP) continues to build its capacity to protect and promote the health of all Ontarians, it is my great pleasure to announce the appointment of Dr. Ray Copes as Director, Environmental and Occupational Health. Dr. Copes joins the OAHP on July 1, 2009.

As Director of Environmental and Occupational Health, Dr. Copes will lead the development and implementation of the Agency's strategies, policies, services and other initiatives in this area. Environmental and occupational health focuses on complex problems and requires the contributions of many disciplines. Supporting and collaborating with a broad group of government and non-government stakeholders, Dr. Copes will develop and oversee the execution of the Agency's priorities in environmental and occupational health.

Dr. Copes will work with public health staff at the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care, public health units across Ontario and the Agency's inter-disciplinary scientific group to undertake effective strategies and activities that meet the needs of the Agency's clients. Dr. Copes will work with the Knowledge Exchange team of the Agency to ensure that results of research, reviews and other knowledge products and services are based on the best evidence available, and are presented in a manner that makes them timely, relevant and accessible to practitioners throughout the province.

Dr. Copes will also continue to work with the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health, which is hosted by the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) on an interim basis until alternative arrangements can be developed.

About Dr. Ray Copes:

Dr. Copes comes to us from the BCCDC where he is Director, Environmental Health Services, and Clinical Professor in the School of Population and Public Health at UBC. He is also a Faculty Associate in the School of Environmental Health. Dr. Copes is the founding Director of the National Collaborating Centre for Environmental Health, funded by the Public Health Agency of Canada. He is a

Faculty Mentor in the UBC Bridge Program, which is a pioneering scholarship-funding and research training program linking the University of British Columbia's Faculties of Medicine, Engineering and Graduate Studies. Dr. Copes' research interests are in the areas of exposure assessment and risk assessment methods. He completed his medical training at McGill University in Quebec and has specialty training in Occupational Medicine.