



# Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health

## Appendix: OSNPPH Working Groups 2015-2016

### **Advocacy Committee**

The Advocacy Committee provides strategic guidance, coordination and support to OSNPPH executive and workgroups to establish the best means by which OSNPPH key messages are translated into advocacy. The Committee supported working groups with government consultations on menu labelling, nutrition labelling, and child care and early years. Social media was used during the federal election on advocacy related to basic income and food insecurity, and increased access to dietitian services.

### **Family Health Nutrition Advisory Group (FHNAG)**

FHNAG members continued to advocate for evidence based and consistent infant and child feeding messages. The group reviewed documents and booklets that included many Best Start resources. FHNAG members also collaborated with the Nutrition Resource Centre to update various resources used across the province including the NutriSTEP toolkit. To support healthy eating environments in child care centres FHNAG members developed at the request of the Ministry of Education 'gold standard' nutrition recommendations.

### **Food Literacy Working Group (FLWG)**

This year the FLWG continued to work with partners/programs such as the Canadian Community Food Centre, Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy, Nutrition Resource Centre, and the Locally Driven Collaborative Project (LDCP). Members from this group are leading the LDCP with a goal of having a tool to measure food literacy in a public health context. The FLWG also continued to provide a venue for members to network, share resources and learnings.

### **Healthy Eating In the Recreation Setting Work Group (HERSWG)**

Members of HERSWG analyzed evidence to identify key healthy eating and food-related issues within recreation settings in Ontario, and compiled a comprehensive status report. A partnership subgroup was established to work on provincial level outreach, capacity building and stakeholder engagement. A communications subgroup was established and created an overarching resource to identify key elements of a healthier recreation food environment and to guide future communication strategies and supportive resource development.

Advocacy efforts continued for enhanced nutrition programs, standards and policies in recreation settings at all levels of government. In collaboration with Parks and Recreation Ontario (PRO), Sudbury & District Health Unit and Oxford County Public Health – HERSWG presented alongside Dr. Kim Raine at the 2016 PRO Educational Forum and Tradeshow to advocate for supportive food environments in Ontario.



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### **Food Security Working Group (FSWG)**

The FSWG released Income-Related Policy Recommendations to Address Food Insecurity, a Position Statement on Responses to Food Insecurity and an accompanying infographic. Over 100 endorsements have been received for the Position Statement and the FSWG will continue its efforts with other components of the communications campaign. The FSWG has sent several advocacy letters, including letters to the Minister of Finance opposing the National Zero Waste Council's campaign for a federal tax credit for food industry donations to charitable food programs and to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care about the Nutritious Food Basket Protocol. The Food Systems Network, a sub-group of the FSWG, continues to meet throughout the year and share resources, knowledge and experiences.

### **Menu Labelling Working Group (MLWG)**

The MLWG submitted a response letter and presented to the Standing Committee to support the key recommendations for amending Healthy Menu Choices Act regarding the inclusion of sodium, and contextual statement. The MLWG also submitted a letter to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (MOHLTC) to provide recommendation and rationale for the changes to the contextual statement to accompany the posting of calorie contents on menus. MLWG attended a technical briefing hosted by MOHLTC regarding the implementation of the Healthy Menu Choices Act and regulations and provided evidence based recommendations to inform development of regulations.

### **School Nutrition Working Group (SNWG)**

The SNWG launched BrightBites (replacing Nutrition Tools for Schools) which is a recognition program that encourages schools to take steps towards achieving a comprehensive school nutrition environment. SNWG has been working on Sip Smart!™ Ontario, an educational program on sugary drinks and healthy drink choices that aligns with the Ontario Ministry of Education's Health and Physical Education Curriculum.

A partnership was formed with Ontario Public Health Association/ Nutrition Resource Centre to revise the Ministry of Children and Youth Services nutrition guidelines for Student Nutrition Programs. Eight SNWG members are part of the review committee.

### **Workplace Nutrition Advisory Group (WNAG)**

The WNAG completed its Toolkit: Creating a Healthy Workplace Nutrition Environment, available on the OSNPPH website. The toolkit was developed to help workplace health intermediaries create a Healthy Workplace Nutrition Environment in their workplace. The toolkit is a follow-up to the 2012 Workplace: Call to Action. The WNAG has soft launched the toolkit, with an official launch planned for October 2016.

For more information about these workgroups, visit [www.osnpph.on.ca](http://www.osnpph.on.ca).