

**OSNPPH Menu Labelling Workgroup Meeting**  
**June 14, 2016**  
**1:30-3:00pm**  
**Minutes**

Dial In Phone Number: 1-866-279-1594

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Chairperson Code: 299954

Participant Code: 531961

**Present :** Renée Gaudet (Simcoe Muskoka) (Chairperson, Kim Ouellette (Niagara), Miquel Roberts (Peel), Kendall Chambers, (Elgin St Thomas), Marketa Graham (Ottawa), Erin Reyce, (North Bay Parry Sound), Rachael Mather (KFL&A), Jessica MacKay (Halton), Tara Brown (Toronto), Pat Moyer-Elliott (Hamilton), Molly Campbell (Haldimand-Norfolk), Donna Smith (NRC/OPHA)

**Regrets:** Lyndsay Davidson, (Chatham), Michelle Lim (Sudbury)

**Recorder:** Jessica MacKay (Halton)

1. **Welcome** – Molly Campbell was welcomed as a new member. She is replacing Laura Goyette who is on maternity leave.
2. **Approval of agenda** – The agenda was approved with no additions.
3. **Review of Minutes from** [March 8, 2016](#) and [April 1, 2016](#) – Minutes were approved with a note to change Rachael Goodmurphy to Rachel Mather on the April 1<sup>st</sup> minutes.
4. **Business Arising**

3.1 Use of Flags -

There has been discussion at our meetings regarding whether we should revise the key message/statement above based on emerging evidence. Tara, Renee and Marketa met to discuss and make the following suggestions to the working group:

- That we acknowledge (via including this information in the meeting minutes) that new evidence has emerged regarding use of symbols, flags etc. and that our key message may not reflect current best practice information.
- The position paper and key messages were developed to support with advocacy efforts towards development of menu labeling legislation. The political environment at this point is more focused on policy implementation and revisions to the key messages may not be the best use of OSNPPH MLWG capacity and resources at this time.
- The key messages could be revisited at a future time if there is a strong purpose and need.

All agreed that we should not put effort into this at the moment and that we should collaborate with the food literacy group when we are re-visiting this issue in the future.

3.2 NYC sodium labels

The group was reminded that this agenda item stemmed out of discussion from the January 12 2016 meeting – item 5.4. Kim looked into NYC's rule and it appears as though no evaluation had been built into this initiative. It was suggested that we contact NYC to determine if they plan to do evaluation in the future. It was noted that there are other regions in the US that have rolled out menu labelling in various ways and including

various nutrients. BC Informed Dining program may have some learnings. NYC is the first area to do sodium warning labels. Would need to weigh the evidence behind doing this.

Questions raised during this discussion:

1. When should we push again to consider sodium? The province plans to evaluate Healthy Menu Choices after 3 years for the inclusion of other nutrients. We can be proactively ready for this. There may be a PHO student looking at this already, David Hammond at Waterloo U is interested in menu labelling and so is Mary L'Abbe at U of T.
2. Is this the right time to look at sodium given there is so much emphasis on sugar? We might want to see if other workgroups are interested in sodium – e.g. SNWG, Workplace.

**Action: revisit this in 2017.**

3.3 Feedback from TOPHC and the session that MLWG moderated:

Kim represented MLWG at TOPHC. There was a good turnout for the session. The session was not just focused on one issue so there were many topics discussed. There were no significant learnings that Kim gleaned.

3.4 DC position paper on SSB

A response was sent to Executive by email on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Critical appraisal tools were used to assess the document. Overall the document doesn't contravene MLWG messaging. Evelyn responded and said that OSNPPH were waiting to hear from other workgroups

## 5. New Business

5.1 Healthy Menu Choices Act

The group discussed responses from MOHLTC regarding the questions we submitted. The answers were reviewed question by question. Overall the group found the answers from the Ministry were a bit vague.

**Question 1:** The group was OK with this response

**Question 2:** The group felt that the Ministry didn't answer all of the questions. Note: the Ministry has since released the Technical Implementation Guide. A new guide as part of OPHS changes will be released. There may be confusion over which guidance document we meant in our question to Ministry.

**Question 3:** There are no expectations for inspectors to be providing nutrition advice to industry or public but there is an expectation that PHIs will be able to determine if adequate tools were used to assess calories. The group saw a role for providing context to why we are doing this.

**Question 4:** An education campaign to start January 2017, according to the Ministry. It was suggested that we contact ASPHIO to determine what they need e.g. nutrition training, what they have heard. We could develop a list of what we think should be included in the training. It was noted that the NRC has offered to work with the Ministry but their work plans haven't been approved yet. **Action: Renee to follow up with ASPHIO.**

Question 5: Not a lot of new information provided.

Question 6: Not a lot of new information provided. The NRC hasn't heard anything but they have offered their support. **Action: Renee to ask David Sit.**

Question 7: No new information provided. **Action: Renee to see if she can follow up with David Sit.**

Due to time constraints we were not able to go through all of the questions.

It was suggested that Renee, Donna and Karen Gough request to meet with David Sit and/or Laura Pisko. It was also suggested that we ask OSNPPH members what their need/wants are with respect to Health Menu Choices Act and to ask them if they have made plans already. Rachael and Kendal volunteered to draft the email to the membership.

Due to time constraints we were not able to get through the entire agenda. It was suggested we continue the meeting at another date. We will need to cover from the second bullet point under 5.1 to agenda item #10. ***Action: Renee to send out Google poll.***

**6. Next Meeting – September 13, 1:30-3pm**