



Ontario Society of Nutrition
Professionals in Public Health

La société ontarienne des professionnel(le)s
de la nutrition en santé publique

c/o Ontario Public Health Association
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Toronto, ON M5G 1Y8

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April 19, 2012

Karen Reece, Administrative Assistant
Association of Local Public Health Agencies
karen@alphaweb.org

Dear Ms. Reece, alpha staff and board members;

Re: OSNPPH Sponsored Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy alpha resolution submission

The Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health (OSNPPH) is the independent and official voice of registered dietitians in public health in Ontario. As an affiliate member of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies we are pleased to submit this resolution for your consideration at the June 11, 2012 Annual General Meeting.

OSNPPH is advocating for the development of an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy (OFNS), and has contributed to this as a member of the Ontario Collaborative Group for Healthy Eating and Physical Activity (OCGHEPHA) – a provincial collaboration of not-for-profit, public health and academic organizations dedicated to addressing population-based issues relating to healthy eating, physical activity, healthy weights and the determinants of health, including food access, availability and adequacy.

OSNPPH endorses OCGHEPHA's goal of a cross-government, multi-stakeholder coordinated approach to food policy development, to be achieved through working across government and with partners to promote and support healthy eating and access to healthful food, and thus improving health and reducing health care costs, and strengthening the economy through a sustainable and environmentally sound food system.

An Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy is in line with the recent Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care (Government of Ontario, 2012) and Taking action to prevent chronic disease: recommendations for a healthier Ontario policy report (Cancer Care Ontario and Public Health Ontario) in recognizing the need for a multi-sectoral, cross-government coordinated approach to improve the health, food security, and productivity of Ontarians and lower the health and social costs to the province.

OSNPPH will continue their work to support the OCGHEPHA's development of targets and indicators, key strategic priorities and program and policy recommendations. The OCGHEPHA is an appropriate body to lay the groundwork and gain momentum for an Ontario Food and

Nutrition Strategy. Future advocacy efforts must address the urgent for the involvement of an adequately resourced government body invested with the mandate for this strategy to come to fruition.

As an affiliate member of alPHa we offer our support to alPHa staff, board members, affiliates and committees in the work they do to advance an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy as well as our continued involvement with the OCGHEPA. We are available to provide clarification and answer any questions you may have.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy MacDonald', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Amy MacDonald, MScFN, RD
OSNPPH Co-Chair
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Edmonstone', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Shannon Edmonstone, RD, MAN
OSNPPH Co-Chair
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Proposed alPHa RESOLUTION

TITLE: Call for action for the development of an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy

SPONSOR: Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health (OSNPPH)

WHEREAS: A provincial food and nutrition strategy with multi-sectoral, cross-government coordination would contribute greatly to improving the health, food security, and productivity of Ontarians, as well as to lowering the health and social costs to the province; and

WHEREAS: The [Ontario Collaborative Group on Healthy Eating and Physical Activity](#)ⁱ in collaboration with various stakeholders has initiated work towards an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy that focuses on the areas of childhood obesity, chronic disease prevention and food security, in preparation for having this work progressed by those invested with appropriate authority and dedicated resources; and

WHEREAS: The [“Taking Action to Prevent Chronic Disease: Recommendations for a Healthier Ontario”](#)ⁱⁱ (Chronic Disease Prevention Blueprint produced by Public Health Ontario and Cancer Care Ontario) and the [Call to Action on Food Security](#)ⁱⁱⁱ (OSNPPH) recommend the implementation of a whole-of-government, coordinated and comprehensive food and nutrition strategy for Ontario, that may support the [Ontario’s Action Plan for Health Care](#)^{iv} which has set an ambitious goal to reduce childhood obesity by 20% over 5 years; and

WHEREAS: It is recognized that provincial government support and collaboration is a crucial factor in developing such a strategy;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies request that the Ontario government provide leadership and resourcing in a whole-of-government approach to provide the structure and processes for further coordination, development and implementation of an Ontario Food and Nutrition Strategy.

ⁱ Ontario Collaborative Group on Healthy Eating and Physical Activity. Background documents. 2010-2011

ⁱⁱ Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). *Taking action to prevent chronic disease: recommendations for a healthier Ontario*. Toronto: Queen’s Printer for Ontario; 2012.

ⁱⁱⁱ OSNPPH. *A Call to Action on Food Security: Key Messages and Background*. OPHA. 2011.

^{iv} Government of Ontario. *Ontario’s Action Plan for Health Care*. Toronto: Queen’s Printer for Ontario; 2012.

Additional Background Information:

Ontario Collaborative Group on Healthy Eating and Physical Activity. Background documents. 2010-2011.
<http://sustainontario.com/initiatives/ontario-food-and-nutrition-strategy/ofns-background-document>

Cancer Care Ontario, Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (Public Health Ontario). *Taking action to prevent chronic disease: recommendations for a healthier Ontario*. Toronto: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2012.
http://www.oahpp.ca/resources/documents/5870%20CCO%20EXEC%20SUM%20ENG%20MAR%2015_12.pdf

OSNPPH. *A Call to Action on Food Security: Key Messages and Backgrounder*. OPHA. 2011.
http://www.osnpph.on.ca/communications/Food_security_key_messages_background.pdf

Government of Ontario. *Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care*. Toronto: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2012.
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/ms/ecfa/healthy_change/docs/rep_healthychange.pdf