

Liaison Coordinator Report –January 2018

Submitted by Elizabeth Smith

Food Insecurity Workgroup - Mary Ellen Prange

There are three items from the FIWG to share with the Exec at the January 29th meeting:

1. Tracy Woloshyn has resigned as a member of the alPHA/OPHA Health Equity Workgroup effective January 2018. Tracy joined the HEWG to work on supporting and promoting basic income, but this is not a current focus for the workgroup. Membership on this group would be better suited for an ODPH member whose health unit is working on indigenous issues. The FIWG is not actively recruiting for another member to replace Tracy.
2. A subgroup of the FIWG is aiming to launch the provincial Cent\$less campaign on Friday, February 2. There will be a public webpage created under the “Resources” tab on the ODPH home page. Content of the webpage will include a 60-second video and a letter that will be directed to leaders of four provincial political parties (including the Green Party of Ontario). Link to video:
<https://360.articulate.com/review/content/af1b97f6-6dd6-4875-89ee-28085c9913fd/review>
Does the Exec need to review all of the content before it goes live? -- NO --
3. Tracy Woloshyn was contacted by the United Way of Toronto and York Region with a request that ODPH endorse a Call to Action on poverty for the upcoming provincial election (see attached). The FIWG supports ODPH endorsement. **Are there any concerns from the Executive with ODPH endorsing this Call to Action?** If the Exec is in agreement to endorse, Tracy will follow-up and provide ODPH’s logo.

Food Systems Workgroup

- Jessica Wegner (PhD/RD at Ryerson) joined meeting Jan 23 to provide an overview of her current research interests related to Food Systems. There was a very positive response to Jessica and exploring collaborating on food systems research. She offered to draft some ideas and a few questions to assess where the members are at with food systems knowledge/work, and everyone agreed to this approach.

School Nutrition Workgroup

- PPM 150 Review and Update from MEdu contact person (Jennifer Munro-Galloway)
January – drafting plan for revision process
March/April – formal announcement (public) re: the plan
Summer – writing/drafting the changes
- Nancy Bevilacqua (co-chair) attended Ministry of Education Healthy School Working Table meeting Jan 17 2018 – shared workgroup feedback about potential revisions and advocated for us to be involved in the process

Ontario Healthy Schools Coalition - Danielle Labonte

- Nothing to report- next meeting is Feb 22

Dietitians of Canada – Jennifer Buccino

- Nothing reported

alPHA Board of Directors - Tracy Allen-Koester, December 11, 2017 Items for the Meeting

Agenda for Discussion/Decision/Direction by Executive

- As indicated in the December report, alPHA sent its policy priorities to Ontario's political party leaders, health critics and the Minister of Health in anticipation of the upcoming 2018 provincial election. In January, alPHA asked its member organizations – public health units and their boards of health – to reach out to their local electoral candidates and current MPPs and share these policy priorities with them. The goal is to raise awareness of these public health priority actions, and influence party policies and platforms in the months leading up to the election. . The materials are available on the alPHA website (www.alphaweb.org) under latest news
- alPHA and OPHA submitted a joint letter (attached) to the Minister of Community and Social Services that provides feedback on the recently-released report, [*Income Security: A Roadmap for Change*](#).
- The CODE-COMOH Working Group met in January 2018. This group consists of representatives from the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) and the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH). The group is focused on strengthening partnerships between public health units and school boards. The last meeting of this group was in May 2017.
- The next alPHA Board meeting is scheduled for Feb. 2, 2018 in Toronto; Tracy is away the month of February returning to her office March 1.

University of Toronto – MPH program; Daniella Buttoni

- Mary Fodor O'Brien is the new Practicum Coordinator for the MPH Nutrition & Dietetics program. Katharine Slater recently retired from this position as of Dec 31st, 2017.
- Pierrette Buklis (MPH Program Director) has been in contact with the MOHLTC to clarify the revisions to the Qualifications of Boards of Health Staff and determine any impact this may have on the program.