

Comprehensive Approaches to School-Based Health Promotion

A resolution adopted at the 2000 OPHA Annual General Meeting

Code: 2000-01 (RES) *Status:* Active

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is recognized in the literature that learning and health are interdependent; and

WHEREAS, fostering the social development of children, including their health, is part of the mandate of the Ontario school system; and

WHEREAS, the school system plays an important role in promoting the health of children and is therefore an important partner of public health agencies who provide a variety of preventive and health-promoting programs and services; and

WHEREAS, educators and guidance counselors have expressed concerns about reductions in school-based health and social services that are needed to support teachers, parents and students; and

WHEREAS, addressing the complex health and social issues facing children and youth requires shared responsibility and collaboration between schools, parents, governmental and non-governmental agencies and the children and youth themselves; and

WHEREAS, the literature indicates that comprehensive approaches to school based health promotion such as “Comprehensive School Health” (CSH) or “Health Promoting Schools” are cost effective in reducing illness and in building attitudes and behaviours that are important for healthy living; and

WHEREAS, CSH has been endorsed by over 20 national and provincial organizations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) collaborate with professional organizations in the fields of education and health and with other related organizations to raise awareness within the government and the public of the value of and the need for comprehensive approaches to school-based health promotion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) lobby the Ontario Ministries of Education, Health and Long Term Care and Community and Social Services to work together to develop policies and funding that will facilitate the full implementation of comprehensive approaches to school-based health promotion in all Ontario schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA) advocate for the inclusion of comprehensive approaches to school-based health promotion in the Ontario Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines.

Regarding resolutions, position papers and motions:

Status: Policy statements (resolutions, position papers and motions) are categorized as:

ACTIVE, if:

1. The activities outlined in the policy statement's implementation plan have not yet been completed; or
2. The policy statement addresses an issue that is currently relevant to public health in Ontario.

ARCHIVED, if:

1. The activities outlined in the policy statement's implementation plan have been completed; or
2. The policy statement addresses an issue that is not currently relevant to public health in Ontario or is not based upon the most current evidence. The statement remains the position of the OPHA until a new statement is adopted that effectively reverses or essentially negates all or major elements of an earlier statement. In this instance, the former supersedes the latter

Reproduction: This document is the property of the OPHA. It may be freely referenced with full acknowledgement of the OPHA, and may not be used for commercial purposes.