



CANADIAN  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
ASSOCIATION

The Voice of Public Health

# A ROADMAP TO CHANGE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

[www.cpha.ca](http://www.cpha.ca)

# A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2021-2025

CPHA envisions an equitable and sustainable world inhabited by healthy people in thriving communities. Today, achieving our vision for public health faces many challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic and the opioid crisis have amplified the shortcomings in our health surveillance systems and the failings of our health and social safety nets. The climate crisis poses an existential threat. Racialized, Black, Asian and Indigenous Peoples continue to endure the pernicious effects of systemic barriers limiting their ability to receive quality health and social services. Far too many in our society are denied equitable access to the social, ecological, and structural determinants of health, the primary factors that shape the health and well-being of individuals and communities.



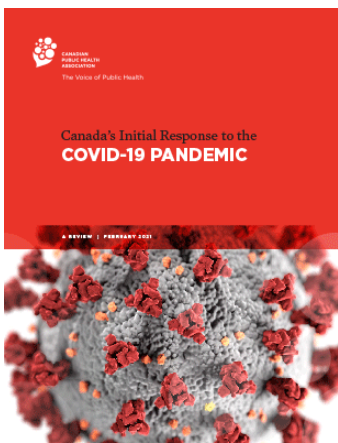
CPHA defines the practice of public health as an approach to maintaining and improving the health of populations based on the principles of social justice, attention to human rights and equity, evidence-informed policy and practice, and addressing the underlying determinants of health. Such an approach places health promotion, health protection, population health surveillance, and the prevention of death, disease, injury and disability as the central tenets of all related initiatives.

CPHA will continue to advocate for healthy public policy on current and emerging public health issues while acknowledging and speaking out on deep-rooted inequities and social injustices. With courage, innovation and commitment, CPHA will draw on the collective strength of its members' public health expertise and passion for change to accelerate progress in key strategic areas.

The plan features **new vision, mission and value statements** for the Association as well as six interconnected strategic priorities:

- Strengthen and renew public health systems and practice;
- Advance Truth and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples;
- Advance social justice, anti-oppression and anti-racism;
- Promote population mental wellness;
- Promote action on the ecological determinants of health; and
- Enhance engagement and organizational sustainability.

# COVID-19



## Review of Canada's initial response to the COVID-19 pandemic

CPHA released a review of [Canada's Initial Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic](#). The report examined the response to the pandemic in Canada, offering a perspective and overview of public health measures as they evolved from the first wave to the second. This report provided a non-governmental perspective and overview of the public health measures taken during the event, and those actions taken to address the social determinants of health in Canada.

## Global vaccine equity

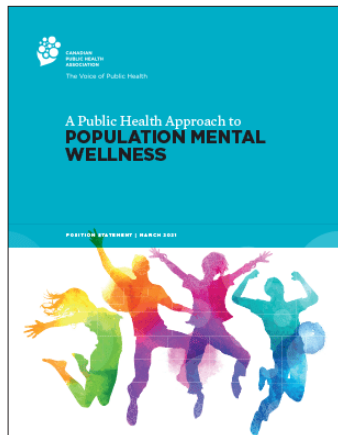
CPHA was part of a group of 30 health organizations and 644 health professionals calling on the Government of Canada to dedicate more resources to supporting the equitable global supply of vaccines. [The letter](#) called for three specific actions:

1. Support the temporary waiver of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights Agreement in relation to products and technologies related to the prevention, treatment or containment of COVID-19, as proposed by India and South Africa to the World Trade Organization.
2. Get shots into arms now by supplying surplus vaccine doses via COVAX through predictable and scheduled donations where timelines and quantities are transparently available to recipient countries and the public.
3. Improve future vaccine supply via increases in the number of sustainable, geographically-diverse vaccine manufacturing facilities.

## A public health approach to population mental wellness

Population mental wellness has been an underlying theme in much of the Association's recent work, whether it be to address **children's access to play**, **substance use**, the social determinants of health, **stigma and racism**,

**Jordan's Principle** or sexual health. This **position statement** describes how personal, social and ecological determinants of health can affect population mental wellness, and how public health approaches can be applied.



## Provide safer, more inclusive care for people with STBBIs

CPHA launched a **free online continuing professional development course**. Intended for family physicians and other clinical care providers, this modular course explores the stigma and discrimination often encountered by patients/clients seeking services for sexual health, substance use or STBBIs. The course has been accredited by the University of Ottawa.

## Tobacco and vaping in Canada



CPHA released a position statement entitled **Tobacco and Vaping Use in Canada: Moving Forward**. Tobacco products and nicotine-containing vaping devices are used to provide nicotine, an addictive substance;

however, the two products have differing health effects. The position statement included a series of recommendations directed at federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments.

## sure

### New substance use website

The Canadian Substance Use Resource and Knowledge Exchange Centre (SURE) launched a new website created by CPHA to support the implementation of a public health approach to substance use. Visitors can access hundreds of free knowledge exchange products, bookmark resources and save searches on the **SURE website**.



### CPHA on YouTube

You can catch up on any of CPHA's webinars you might have missed by visiting our YouTube channel. Topics include:

- **Alcohol policy in Canada**
- **Cannabis**
- **CANVax webinar series**
- **COVID-19 vaccine safety information**
- **Infectious disease and climate change**
- **Substance use**



# CLIMATE CRISIS

## Supreme Court decision on greenhouse gas pollution pricing

On 25 March 2021, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled in favour of the constitutionality of the federal *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* (2018), affirming the authority of the federal government to set national standards for carbon pricing. CPHA applauded the decision, noting that greenhouse gas emissions are a quintessential public health concern because the emissions, wherever the source, disrupt biophysical and economic systems, threatening the well-being and health of populations everywhere. CPHA was an intervenor that supported the federal government. Jennifer L. King, Michael Finley, and Liane Langstaff, lawyers from Gowling WLG’s Environmental Law Group, represented CPHA.



## Healthy, green and just recovery

In collaboration with the Canadian Health Association for Sustainability and Equity and the Ontario Public Health Association, CPHA produced a series of blogs, factsheets and backgrounders to disseminate important and timely research on the need to improve public health, decrease health inequities and provide beneficial side effects in the fight to address climate change.

## Code Red for a healthy future

The *Lancet Countdown on Health and Climate Change* is a comprehensive yearly analysis tracks progress on key indicators of the impact of climate change on human health and the world’s efforts to minimize



it. The *Policy Brief for Canada* provides country-specific recommendations by leading domestic experts to highlight areas in which leaders and policy-makers should focus to develop a healthy response to climate change.

## Infectious disease and climate change

The national poster contest is an opportunity for Grade 6 students from across Canada to learn more about climate sensitive infectious diseases like Lyme disease and West Nile virus, and share awareness and prevention information with their communities.



Our key informant report describes what is happening in Canada with respect to climate change and infectious diseases and highlights challenges and opportunities within this emerging field of inquiry.



## IN MEMORIAM

### **Benita Cohen, RN, MSc, PhD**

10 May 1956 – 17 November 2021

It was with great sadness that we announced the sudden passing of Benita Cohen.

In addition to being the Chair of CPHA's Board of Directors, Benita was an Associate Professor in Nursing at the University of Manitoba, where she focused on mentoring students to become health equity champions.

Her research projects included exploring public health nurses' role in addressing child and family poverty; an equity scan of Canadian tobacco control policy; a health equity impact assessment of a provincial parenting program; development of a conceptual framework of organizational capacity for public health equity action; and a systematic review of public health's role in advocacy for health equity.

Benita received the 2013 Community Health Nurses of Canada Award of Merit for her contributions to the field of public/community health.

As the Chair of CPHA's Board, she worked to strengthen public health system capacity to promote health equity and social justice.

Benita was a great advocate for public health and health equity who will be greatly missed by her family and friends, her colleagues and students and by everyone at CPHA.



## Outstanding contributions to Public Health in Canada

In 2021, the Canadian Public Health Association honoured these very **deserving individuals** for exceptional service to their community and profession.



**R.D. Defries Award**  
Louise Potvin



**Honorary Life Membership**  
Brent T. Friesen



**Ron Draper Health Promotion Award**  
Bernadette Pauly



**Certificate of Merit**  
Anna Betty  
Achneepineskum



**National Public Health Hero Award**  
Jennifer L. King,  
Michael Finley and  
Liane Langstaff -  
Gowling WLG

## Canadian Public Health Association 2021 Board of Directors

<b>CHAIR</b>	Benita Cohen, RN, MSc, PhD
<b>CHAIR-ELECT</b>	Vamini Selvanandan, BSc, MD, CCFP
<b>DIRECTORS</b>	Jason Cabaj, MD, MSc, FRCPC
	Katie-Sue Derejko, MPH, MA, PMP
	Monica Emode, BA, MSc (c)
	Yipeng Ge, MD, BHSc
	Donika Jones, MPH, BSc, BA
	Sume Ndumbe-Eyoh, Hons BSc, MHSc
	Thomas Piggott, MD, MSc, CCFP, FRCPC
	Laura (McQuillan) Taylor, BSc, MPH

## Supporters of Public Health in Canada

<b>PRESENTING PARTNER</b>	Canadian Institutes of Health Research
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH CHAMPIONS</b>	AstraZeneca Canada Inc.
	GSK
	Medicago Inc.
	Merck & Co. Inc.
	Moderna, Inc.
	Pfizer Canada
	Sanofi Pasteur Limited
	Seqirus
<b>LEGACY BENEFACTOR</b>	National Collaborating Centres for Public Health
<b>FRIEND OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b>	Canadian Institute for Health Information
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH SUPPORTERS</b>	Innovative Medicines Canada
	Schulich Interfaculty Program in Public Health, University of Western Ontario
	University of Waterloo Faculty of Applied Health Sciences
	Valneva
<b>COLLABORATORS</b>	Assembly of First Nations
	Canadian Alliance for Regional Risk Factor Surveillance
	Métis National Council
	Network of Schools and Programs of Population Public Health
	Pan American Health Organization
	Public Health Agency of Canada
	Public Health Physicians of Canada

## Financial results

For the fiscal year ending 31 December 2021.

Audited financial statements are available at [www.cpha.ca](http://www.cpha.ca).

### Statement of Financial Position

CURRENT ASSETS	2021	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,676,079	\$1,293,999	\$646,181
Accounts receivable	580,184	484,761	220,577
Inventory	38,892	21,028	27,812
Prepaid expenses	81,759	140,385	105,527
	2,376,914	1,940,173	1,000,097
Long-term investments	—	—	205,995
	<b>\$2,376,914</b>	<b>\$1,940,173</b>	<b>\$1,206,092</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$260,884	\$351,865	\$142,930
Deferred revenue	1,019,661	618,211	764,444
	<b>1,280,545</b>	<b>970,076</b>	<b>907,374</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
Internally restricted for contingencies and extraordinary services	425,000	425,000	425,000
Unrestricted	671,369	545,097	(126,282)
	<b>1,096,369</b>	<b>970,097</b>	<b>298,718</b>
	<b>\$2,376,914</b>	<b>\$1,940,173</b>	<b>\$1,206,092</b>

### Statement of Operations

REVENUE	2021	2020	2019
Projects and conferences	\$3,814,978	\$2,924,754	\$2,426,789
National Office	510,946	579,000	353,775
Canadian Journal of Public Health	93,006	89,799	152,891
Publication sales	24,429	30,905	54,442
Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy	—	518,471	—
Investment income	2,100	4,115	10,950
	<b>\$4,445,459</b>	<b>\$4,147,044</b>	<b>\$2,998,847</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Projects and conferences	\$3,814,978	\$2,924,754	\$2,426,789
National Office	404,970	448,802	660,913
Canadian Journal of Public Health	73,289	76,339	91,544
Publication sales	25,950	25,770	48,502
	<b>\$4,319,187</b>	<b>\$3,475,665</b>	<b>\$3,227,748</b>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	<b>\$126,272</b>	<b>\$671,379</b>	<b>(\$228,901)</b>