



2022 ONTARIO ELECTION PRIORITIES

OPHA calls on all political parties to strengthen and rebuild our public health and community health systems for the health and well-being of all Ontarians.

We are experiencing the worst public health crisis in more than a century, impacting the lives, health, and well-being of our population. As public health and community health professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of Ontarians, we urge all political parties to commit to increasing investments in the public health system that protects and promotes the health of our communities, supports the resiliency of the public health and community health workforce, and enables the autonomy and ability for public health leaders to address local and regional needs.

Further, we call on all parties to commit to policies and strategies that prevent chronic disease, advance racial and health equity and address climate change and its impacts on health and well-being.

1



Strengthen public health and community health by increasing and sustaining funding, while enabling local and regional autonomy

- Increase and sustain funding to public health units and community health systems
- Ensure public health units and their leadership exercise independence and autonomy
- Engage public health professionals at all levels and ensure their perspectives are represented

2



Restore and strengthen the public health workforce

- Ensure funding for capacity building and workforce planning
- Ensure funding for surge capacity
- Begin collaborative federal, provincial and territorial public health human resources planning
- Heed Ontario Medical Association recommendations around learnings from past outbreaks

3



Advance racial and health equity

- Commit to the safe collection and use of socio-demographic and race-based data
- Commit to OPHA's recommendations in their Position Statement and Resolution on Anti-Racism

4



Take bold actions to address climate change

- Reduce emissions from transportation through strategic investments
- Invest in building retrofits to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve indoor air quality
- Invest in renewable energy
- Integrate public health considerations and health equity into all climate change decisions
- Address the need for more data on climate risks and inequities

5



Develop and implement a comprehensive chronic disease prevention strategy

- Safeguard and increase investments in health promotion strategies
- Develop a chronic disease prevention council
- Develop a provincial chronic disease prevention strategy

Learn more at opha.on.ca, or email admin@opha.on.ca

