

2016 PHABC Annual Report

President's Report

I am very grateful for the incredible work that our staff, board members and volunteers have contributed to the Association during this past year, in order to advance our commitment to public health in BC. In addition to all of the significant work of our committees that you will read below, 2016 has been a year of transitions and planning. We very much appreciate our Past President Marjorie MacDonald's leadership in finalizing our new strategic plan last December. Since then the staff, board of directors and all 5 committees developed our board approved formal operational plan to support us in reaching our goals and our vision for a fair and healthy British Columbia for all. We also embarked on the development of a new communication plan and brand new public engagement plan to help us engage our members, stakeholders and public at large.

One of the biggest strengths of the association is the expertise of our members. Thanks to this expertise, PHABC is able to be responsive and relevant with respect to many public health related issues in the spotlight today, including climate change. In alignment with the 2016 Summer School on "Promoting Health and Sustainability: The Case of Climate Change and Energy Use", we are proud to have supported two evidence-based position papers on the Pacific Northwest Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project and the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Expansion, given their potential impact on the health of our communities. It is my hope that in 2017, PHABC will build on these efforts and continue to address health equity and to lend our strong support to Indigenous communities confronting economic, social and health challenges in BC.

After decades of hard work and dedication, we are now embarking on a new era at PHABC, one where we can put our new plans into action for the coming years. To support this work in the next coming years, the board has struck a Sustainability Sub-committee to ensure we are actively seeking opportunities to find the necessary resources to sustain and grow our reach and impact. All of these efforts will guide our collaborative work in the future and could not have been possible without the tenacity and leadership of our staff, board and volunteers.

On behalf of PHABC staff and board I also want to acknowledge the almost nine years of management and leadership that Michael Barnes brought to PHABC serving as our Executive Director. Michael's work helped pave the way for PHABC to become a vibrant and sustainable organization and be a model for other public health associations across Canada. I also want to extend a very special thank you to Dr. John Miller who has recently stepped down from his role as Vice President of PHABC and has inspired a generation of advocates for healthy public policy. We will miss you both but also know that you will stay close to the Association and we wish you a successful journey ahead.

As with every year, we are faced with mixed emotions as we say farewell to our board members finishing their terms and also welcome some new faces full of new ideas. This year we bid farewell to long-standing board member (and Past President) Shannon Turner, who has dedicated more than 10 years of her life to PHABC. We also say good-bye to Dan Reist, Diana Daghofer, Sally McBride and Sandra Bodenhamer, all of whom have been instrumental in the development of our conferences, advocacy efforts, communications, and public engagement initiatives over the last few years. It is remarkable to look back and acknowledge that all of this work is done on a volunteer basis. Thank you on behalf of PHABC for sharing your knowledge and passion with us throughout the years. We are a stronger and wiser association because of you.

I conclude by congratulating our newly elected board members: Brian O'Connor, Britany Bingham, Juan Solorzano, Shannon Clarke, Simon Carroll and Veronica Fynn who bring a wealth of experience and diverse perspectives that can support PHABC to become an example of a vibrant, member-driven, sustainable organization in the future.

With gratitude,

Paola Ardiles

President, PHABC

Public Engagement Committee Report

In 2016 the Public Engagement Committee took on the role of supporting the organization and PHABC board committees to embed public engagement in the work they do. This was promoted through a variety of approaches. One method was embedding public engagement in the newly developed communication strategy. Another key recommendation was to create more diversity within the board with the goal of engaging representatives from communities that often lack representation. This was accomplished through recruiting new members to run for board positions in 2016 to help represent diverse communities.

Furthermore, the Public Engagement Committee worked with board members to define the board's position on public engagement and how the board as a whole; and each of the subcommittees individually could implement public engagement practices. Facilitated by the PHABC Engagement Committee co-chairs, an engagement workshop was held at the face-to-face board meeting in July 2016. There, each board committee produced a draft engagement plan where they outlined how they intended to engage the public in the work they do. The drafts are being refined with plans to finalize the plans and move into implementation in early 2017

Lastly, the engagement committee supported Public Engagement at the PHABC annual conference. The engagement committee initiated a dotmocracy exercise where conference and

public event attendees could help set the priorities for PHABC for 2017. Additionally, the engagement committee supported the plan and facilitation of the conference's Public Event to engage local residents, businesses, PHABC membership and the public at large. The theme of the event was to support and awareness for vaccination and raise money for I Boost Immunity, a project that sends vaccinations where they are needed most.

Sincerely,
Sandra Bodenhamer and Theresa Healy

Governance Committee

The Governance Committee has had a productive year. Our committee supported the appointment of a Vice President for three months in order to fill the remainder of a term left vacant as a result of a retirement from the board. We successfully conducted the nomination and election processes to fill vacancies on the Board. This year, there were vacancies for the Vice President, 6 Directors at Large. Due to an incredibly positive response we held an election and successfully filled all of the vacant positions. Another task was to conduct a review of the new BC Societies Act to assess the implications for changes to the PHABC Constitution and Bylaws. The conclusion was that the existing Constitution and Bylaws will serve us well under the new legislation. Over the next year, we will continue to work toward transitioning the association under the new society act legislation.

Shannon Turner
Chair
Governance Committee

Capacity Building Committee Report, 2013-2014

Key aims of the PHABC Capacity Building Committee:

- Promote excellence in public health practice through various mechanisms including professional development, awards programs, mentorships, networks and other projects,
- Seek to advance competency development by influencing curriculum, continuing education, and skill development programs,

To achieve these goals the Capacity Building Committee focused attention on two key initiatives and established a sub-committee for each.

2016 - 7th Annual Public Health Summer School (July 11-12)

The 2016 Summer School took place on the 30th anniversary of the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion, which recognized that health promotion cannot be achieved by the health sector acting alone. In light of last year's CPHA report on the ecological determinants of health, the

Lancet Commission's on both Climate Change and Planetary Health and the Paris Summit Agreement on Climate Change, the PHABC's Summer School planning committee agreed that the theme for 2016 was: **"Promoting Health and Sustainability: The Case of Climate Change and Energy Use."**

The health implications of climate change are assuming greater importance. Here in BC, those impacts include inundation from rising sea levels, more frequent and stronger storms, droughts and forest fires, urban heat events, and wider distribution of the ticks that cause Lyme disease, among other impacts. As a result, we are having more frank debates on pipelines, fracking, LNG and coal exports, on the one hand. On the other hand, many people are looking for solutions and moving forward with the carbon taxes, investing in public transit and alternative energy systems and adjusting our urban planning and food systems in response to the urgent needs identified. Public health professionals and organizations will increasingly be drawn into both the policy debates, local actions and public responses, whether it be to examine the health impacts of energy systems or the creation of healthier, equitable and more sustainable communities.

Summer School 2016

Goal:

To bring together individuals involved in the delivery of public health activities to examine the application of the Ottawa Charter to issues related to climate change and implications for action at the individual, health care system and community level for health and health equity.

Outcome:

At completion, Summer School participants will have attained learning outcomes and increased public health competencies regarding actions to address climate change, health and health equity with both the public and partners in the health care system and other sectors.

Objectives:

1. To review and critically discuss the evidence that informs strategies to address the health implications of climate change in BC and globally.
2. To explore applications of a variety of approaches addressing climate change, health and health equity used by public health and other sectors.
3. To understand and explore how intersectoral collaboration might maximize public health action and engagement, especially locally and within the health care system, in addressing the health implications of climate change.
4. To review a variety of tools and resources to support effective public and population health practices related to climate change.
5. To provide participants, including intersectoral partners, with the opportunity to apply new knowledge, skills and/or resources during activities throughout the Summer School.
6. To attract people working in the environmental and other related sectors as participants in the Summer School.

One hundred and nine people from multiple sectors participated across four sites, including: University of Victoria, University of British Columbia, University of British Columbia- Okanagan, and University of Northern British Columbia. All sites were connected by synchronous videoconference, allowing participants from across the province to view presentations in real-time, ask questions, interact virtually and collaborate. For more information regarding the final report as well as the presentations and tools, please visit the PHABC website.

Overall, participants viewed the 2016 Summer School's "**Promoting Health and Sustainability: The Case of Climate Change and Energy Use**", as a positive and valuable learning experience. Survey respondents gave high ratings for event logistics, content and their overall experience at the Summer School; they also provided valuable feedback in the form of written comments. The Summer School planning committee is pleased to note that almost all respondents would recommend the PHABC Summer School to their colleagues, and nearly two thirds of respondents stated they would likely attend a future Summer School. There were many factors that went into making the Summer School a success, including the thoughtful planning that went into designing the course schedule, the passion and dedication of the various presenters, as well as the effectiveness of the videoconference format to link participants across the province— among other strengths. Survey responses also illuminated some areas for improvement for future Summer Schools, such as longer breaks, more skill development, better systems for continued action, and greater emphasis on intersectoral collaboration. PHABC will take this feedback into consideration when planning future events.

Acknowledgements: A big thank you to all the presenters and especially David Flanders, Dr. Trevor Hancock and Dr. Tim Takaro. Thank you to UBC-Faculty of Medicine Videoconferencing Facilities office, who provided videoconference technology and logistical support during the Summer School. Also, thank you to our sponsors: First Nations' Health Authority, Fraser Health, Health Officers' Council of BC, Island Health, National Collaborating Centre for Aboriginal Health, Northern Health, PHAC, PHSA, UBC, UBC Okanagan, UNBC, U of Victoria and Vancouver Coastal Health. Finally, thank you to participants and Alex, Cecilia and Michael, the PHABC staff, for making the 2016 Summer School a great learning event.

2016 PHABC Conference (December 11-12).

Following recent tradition the first decision was to collaborate with another sector in planning and delivering the conference. After considering various options we decided to focus on the education sector with particular attention to the K-12 sector. We reached out to the BC Teacher's Federation who were receptive and named Allen Lee to co-chair the planning committee with Dan Reist from the PHABC board. The following planning framework was developed.

Purpose:

To create a forum for deliberative dialogue and respectful exchange of ideas related to the intersections of public health and education, in order to build meaningful collaboration, mutual understanding and support between the public health and education communities in achieving well-being for all.

Objectives

1. To share evidence on the benefits, challenges, successes and failures of current health-education engagements.
2. To develop competencies within the public health and education communities to support inter-sectoral work.
3. To engage the public in a deliberative dialogue with the education and public health communities.
4. To provide opportunities for collaboration through networks, linkages, and partnerships between the public health and education sectors for addressing shared goals.

Conference Questions

1. How can the public health and education sectors work together, and with other partners, to maximize the health and well-being of children and young people?
2. How can the education and public health sectors work together to maximize the health and well-being of their workforces?
3. How can the education and public health sectors collaborate on supporting the wellbeing of families?
4. How can the public health and education sectors collaborate to advocate for sustainable efforts in public education and public health and to promote social justice and equity?

The committee sought to make the conference applicable to a variety of learning styles and to employ multiple learning formats simultaneously. Following a call for proposals, eight workshops, 12 world cafes and 32 oral presentations were selected. Opening plenary presentations were planned for each day to both model and articulate collaboration between the sectors and a closing plenary panel was designed to summarize ideas and suggest ways of application and moving forward. The first day focused on the K-12 system while the second day took a broader scope of education through the life-course.

The focus throughout highlighted how collaboration could contribute to achieving the goals of both public health and education and to creating efficiencies in delivering the services that contribute to these goals.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to Dan Reist and Allan Lee for your leadership and guidance through the planning process. And big thank you to all the volunteers in the planning committee as well as the speakers, abstract presenters and volunteers at the actual Conference.

PARC Committee 2016 Annual Report to the PHABC Board of Directors

The role of the Policy, Advocacy and Research Committee (PARC) was confirmed during the 2015-2016 strategic planning process: To advance evidence-based policies that promote health, wellbeing and social equity. The following objectives contribute to this goal:

- Ensure that evidence informed policy is presented to the board addressing health promotion, wellbeing and social equity.
- Pursue partnerships and allies with NGOs, civil society and governments to generate Healthy Public Policy.
- Communicate recommended policy in a publicly accessible manner.
- Advocate for implementation of policies at all levels of governance.
- Evaluate influence within policy community.

The priorities we have worked towards this year are: (1) eliminating poverty and reducing health/socioeconomic inequities; (2) addressing climate change and healthy environments; (3) contributing to a sustainable, equitable economy; and (4) preventing violence.

Activities we completed to work towards our goal include:

Poverty and inequities:

- Called upon Premier Christy Clark and Minister Michelle Stilwell to raise disability benefits provided to people with disabilities and to reinstate the annual bus pass fee of \$45 per year for people with disabilities.
- Supported the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition's Rethink Poverty campaign, with blogs on the health issues presented by a lack of affordable housing, and BC's low welfare and disability rates.

Violence Prevention

- Called for a repeal of Section 43 of the Criminal Code, which allows for the physical punishment of children

Healthcare support

- Endorsed the Ottawa Principles, calling for restrictions on commercial marketing of all food and beverages to children and youth age 16 years and younger
- Endorsed the Canadian Cancer Society's call to expand the publicly funded human papillomavirus (HPV) program to include all boys

Partnership development

- Actively participate in the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition and the Climate Change Table, with Sally McBride as our representative
- Supported the following organizations with financial contributions: BC Poverty Reduction Coalition; First Call BC; Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives; BC Healthy Living Alliance

- Supported position papers on the Pacific Northwest Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project and the Kinder Morgan Trans Mountain Expansion

As the year drew to a close, PARC developed an advocacy framework to guide its decisions and strategies on advocacy. It was also actively planning an advocacy campaign for the upcoming provincial election. Key issues under consideration were (1) reducing poverty and inequities, (2) climate change and environmental issues; and (3) preserving the public health system

Sincerely,

Diana Daghofer and Maureen Rowan
PARC Co-Chairs

Finance Committee Report

For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, PHABC has seen another year of strong revenues, with year-over-year compound annual growth in program delivery above 13% since 2013. Operating costs for the organization have decreased since 2013 and held steady for the past two fiscal years, resulting in a program efficiency above 80%. Net assets for the organization continue to be strong, with a healthy operating reserve. Overall, PHABC continues to be a fiscally healthy and vibrant society.