

An Alcohol Strategy for Ontario

Promoting Public Health and Community Safety

Wednesday, May 18

Oakham House, Toronto

Working Group *for*

Responsible

Alcohol Retailing

Forum Objectives:

Alcohol is no ordinary consumer good. The costs associated with alcohol use, in the form of health care, enforcement and lost productivity far exceed the revenues raised by alcohol sales. An alcohol strategy for Ontario requires prioritizing community well-being and safety – for the good of its citizens and for provincial revenues. Bringing together a variety of stakeholders, this alcohol forum will:

- › Provide current alcohol policy information and promote evidence-based policies that reduce the social and health harms from alcohol;
- › Raise public awareness about the potential social and health impacts from expanded access to alcohol;
- › Present local response and action to address alcohol-related harm; and
- › Build political will to adopt an evidence-informed provincial alcohol control strategy that prioritizes community safety and reduces harm.

Questions for the Interactive Dialogue with Forum Participants

Towards the end of the day, participants will be asked to consider these questions and comment on them if they wish:

1. What will it take to build an Ontario alcohol strategy that prioritizes safety and health?
2. How do we balance economic interests with health interests? Is this possible?
3. What would you like to see happen next after the forum? What are some immediate next steps?

Agenda

Wednesday May 18, 2016

Time	Activity
8:00 to 9:00 AM	Registration and breakfast in the Courtyard Lounge
9:00 to 9:05 AM	Plenary session in the Tecumseh Auditorium Master of Ceremonies, Denise Davis, Chair , Liquor Board Employees Division, Ontario Public Service Employees Union
9:05 to 9:15 AM	Welcoming remarks Warren (Smokey) Thomas , President, Ontario Public Service Employees Union
9:15 to 9:30 AM	Update on the Alcohol Policy Framework The Honourable Dipika Damerla - Associate Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (Long-Term Care and Wellness)
9:30 to 9:50 AM	Keynote speaker: Rethinking our relationship with drinking Ann Dowsett Johnston , Author of <i>Drink: The Intimate Relationship Between Women and Alcohol</i>
9:50 to 10:25 AM	Session 1: What is the current evidence? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tim Stockwell, Director, the Centre for Addiction Research of British Columbia • Dr. Robert Mann, Senior Scientist, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr. Norman Giesbrecht, Senior Scientist Emeritus, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
10:25 to 10:40 AM	BREAK - Coffee, tea and fruit in the Courtyard Lounge
10:40 to 11:25 AM	Session 1 continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Murie, Chief Executive Officer, MADD Canada • Dr. Lisa Simon, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr. Norman Giesbrecht
11:25 AM to 12:40 PM	Session 2: Why Ontario needs a provincial alcohol strategy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Public Health Officer, Nova Scotia • Pegeen Walsh, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association • Dr. Hazel Lynn, Medical Officer of Health, Grey Bruce Health Unit • Brenda Stankiewicz, Public Health Nurse, Sudbury & District Health Unit <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Amy Hlaing, York Region Public Health, Ontario Public Health Association Alcohol Workgroup Representative
12:40 to 1:30 PM	LUNCH - Sandwiches, salad and fruit in the Courtyard Lounge
1:30 to 2:45 PM	Session 3: Building an effective, evidence-informed alcohol strategy for Ontario <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Robert Schwartz, Principal Investigator and Executive Director, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit • Ian Loadman, Senior Director, Corporate Affairs, LCBO • Dr. Lynn Anne Mulrooney, Senior Policy Analyst, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario • Anne Leonard, Executive Director, Arrive Alive DRIVE SOBER <hr/> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Cathy Edwards, Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington Public Health, Ontario Public Health Association Alcohol Workgroup Chair
2:45 to 3:00 PM	BREAK - Coffee and tea in the Courtyard Lounge.
3:00 to 3:45 PM	Session 3 continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactive dialogue with forum participants. Moderator: Cathy Edwards
3:45 to 3:50 PM	Closing Remarks Dr. Norman Giesbrecht , on behalf of the Alcohol Policy Forum Planning Committee, Working Group for Responsible Alcohol Retailing
3:50 to 4:00 PM	Evaluation
4:00 PM	Adjournment

Biographies

Welcoming Remarks

Warren (Smokey) Thomas, President, Ontario Public Service Employees Union



Since first elected president of OPSEU in 2007, Warren (Smokey) Thomas has been re-elected on four occasions, most recently in May, 2015. A registered practical nurse, he has been a union activist for more than 30 years and his commitment to social justice and the rights of working people has never wavered. Often in demand by the media, Thomas doesn't back down from a challenge, especially when he identifies actions by governments that harm the public interest.

Special Guest Speaker

The Honourable Dipika Damerla, Associate Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (Long-Term Care and Wellness)



Dipika Damerla is the Associate Minister of Health and Long-Term Care with responsibility for Long-Term Care and Wellness. She has been a cabinet minister since June 2014. Dipika was first elected to the Ontario legislature in 2011 as the MPP for Mississauga East-Cooksville and was re-elected in 2014. Previously, she served as Parliamentary Assistant in a number of portfolios. Prior to entering politics, Dipika worked in corporate banking and has an MBA in Finance from the Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. Dipika is guided by the ideal that in life "it is not enough to be good, you have to do good."

Keynote speaker

Ann Dowsett Johnston, Author



Winner of five gold National Magazine Awards, a Southam Fellowship and the Atkinson Fellowship in Public Policy, Ann Dowsett Johnston is the bestselling author of the international book *Drink: The Intimate Relationship Between Women and Alcohol*, named one of the top 10 books of 2013 by the Washington Post. A respected advocate in public policy matters, she is co-founder and co-chair of the National Roundtable on Girls, Women and Alcohol, a pan-Canadian advocacy group launched in 2013, and a leader of Faces and Voices of Recovery Canada. Ann has delivered dozens of talks both across Canada and abroad.

Session 1 - What is the current evidence?

Dr. Tim Stockwell, Director, the Centre for Addiction Research of British Columbia



Tim was appointed Director of the Centre for Addiction Research of BC (CARBC) and a Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Victoria in 2004. He has published over 350 research papers, book chapters and monographs, plus several books on prevention and treatment issues. Tim has established CARBC as a research centre which aims to shed light on the social, cultural and psychological determinants of harmful substance use, which applies rigorous measures of patterns of use and related harms, and which advances knowledge of effective policy and practice.

Dr. Robert Mann, Senior Scientist, Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health



Dr. Robert Mann is a Senior Scientist in the Institute for Mental Health Policy Research at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, where he is the Head of the Population Health and Community Transformation Section. He is an Associate Professor with the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and Field Director of the Addiction and Mental Health Stream of the MScCH program there. Dr. Mann has studied the epidemiology of alcohol-related problems (e.g., deaths from drunk driving, liver disease, suicide, and homicide) as well as individual, environmental, and social factors that influence them.

Andrew Murie, Chief Executive Officer, MADD Canada



Andrew Murie has been MADD Canada's Chief Executive Officer since 1997. His responsibilities include managing the National Office and facilitating MADD Canada's public policy agenda, national programs and victim services to its 100+ volunteer groups across Canada. He has conducted hundreds of presentations on impaired driving to elected members of government, government staff, police enforcement officers, and traffic safety organizations and other community-based impaired driving organizations.

Dr. Lisa Simon, Associate Medical Officer of Health, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit



Dr. Lisa Simon is a Public Health and Preventive Medicine specialist who has worked with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit as an Associate Medical Officer of Health (AMOH) since 2011. Her interests and work are in the areas of the social determinants of health, chronic disease and injury prevention, and child and reproductive health. Dr. Simon has a long-standing interest in health equity, both locally and globally, and is actively involved with issues of income and health at the local and provincial level.

Session 2: Why Ontario needs a provincial alcohol strategy

Dr. Robert Strang, Chief Public Health Officer, Nova Scotia



Dr. Robert Strang is Chief Medical Officer of Health in Nova Scotia. He was appointed in August 2007. He received his medical degree from the University of British Columbia and completed Family Practice and Community Medicine residencies at UBC. As CMOH, he has provided leadership around the renewal of the public health system in Nova Scotia and the importance of creating policies and environments that support better health for families and communities. Dr. Strang is currently the Provincial-Territorial co-chair of the Public Health Network Council and represents the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health on the National Alcohol Strategy Advisory Committee.

Pegeen Walsh, Executive Director, Ontario Public Health Association



Pegeen Walsh has overseen the design and delivery of a wide range of programs, policies, partnerships, and research that have supported health and wellbeing through leadership roles with the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, the Public Health Agency of Canada, Health Canada and YMCA Canada and since 2014, as Executive Director with the Ontario Public Health Association.

Dr. Hazel Lynn, Medical Officer of Health, Grey Bruce Health Unit



As a family physician, Dr. Hazel Lynn practiced across Canada and internationally. She has been the Medical Officer of Health for Grey Bruce since 2000. In 2002, she earned a Master's in community health and epidemiology. Some of the initiatives she has spearheaded as MOH include regional smoke-free by-laws, municipal alcohol policy development, Panorama immunization registry pilot, fetal alcohol exposure, heart health, and smoking cessation studies.

Brenda Stankiewicz, Public Health Nurse, Sudbury & District Health Unit



Brenda Stankiewicz is Public Health Nurse at the Sudbury and District Public Health Unit. Brenda graduated from Laurentian University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and began her career in pediatric nursing at Laurentian Hospital. She joined the Sudbury & District Health Unit in 1989. In 2004 she was assigned to the portfolio of Substance Misuse prevention, an area that she currently works in, as lead of the Community Drug Strategy.

Session 3: Building an effective, evidence-informed alcohol strategy for Ontario

Dr. Robert Schwartz, Principal Investigator and Executive Director, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit



Robert Schwartz is Executive Director of the Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, Associate Professor in the Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto, Senior Scientist, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, and Editor-in-Chief at the Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation. He has published widely about tobacco control, accountability, public health policy, policy change and program evaluation.

Ian Loadman, Senior Director, Corporate Affairs, LCBO



Ian Loadman is Senior Director of Corporate Affairs at the LCBO, responsible for providing policy advice to the Board and senior management. Prior to joining the LCBO in 2009, he worked in the Ontario Public Service on alcohol and gaming policy. Ian holds a Ph.D. from Yale University in political science.

Dr. Lynn Anne Mulrooney, Senior Policy Analyst, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario

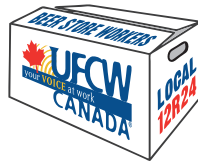


Lynn Anne Mulrooney is Senior Policy Analyst at the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO). She is a registered nurse with a Master of Public Health and a PhD in Political Science. Her work includes public policy research and advocacy on health equity including mental health and addiction issues.

Anne Leonard, Executive Director, Arrive Alive *DRIVE SOBER*



Anne Leonard became involved in the issue after being personally affected by an impaired driving crash in October 1979. Anne has been involved in the organization of all 28 arrive alive DRIVE SOBER® campaigns since 1989 and currently holds the position of Executive Director. Anne has three grown children and two grandchildren.



The Working Group for Responsible Alcohol Retailing would like to thank the Alcohol Forum Planning Committee:

- **Norman Giesbrecht**, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- **Amy Hlaing**, York Region Public Health, Ontario Public Health Association Alcohol Workgroup Representative
- **Lynn Anne Mulrooney**, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
- **Megan Park (chair)**, Ontario Public Service Employees Union
- **Brenda Stankiewicz**, Sudbury & District Health Unit, Ontario Public Health Association Alcohol Workgroup Representative
- **Rick Woodall**, Liquor Board Employees Division, Anti-Privatization Committee chair, Ontario Public Service Employees Union
- The planning committee would in turn like to thank **Matt Evans**, formerly of Ontario Students Against Impaired Driving, for his participation, and **Jason LeMar**, Public Health Ontario, for his guidance.