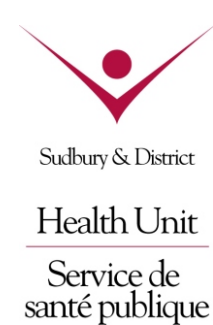


Ontario Public Health Libraries Association (OPHLA)



Mission Statement

To build and promote library and information services for a strong public health system in Ontario

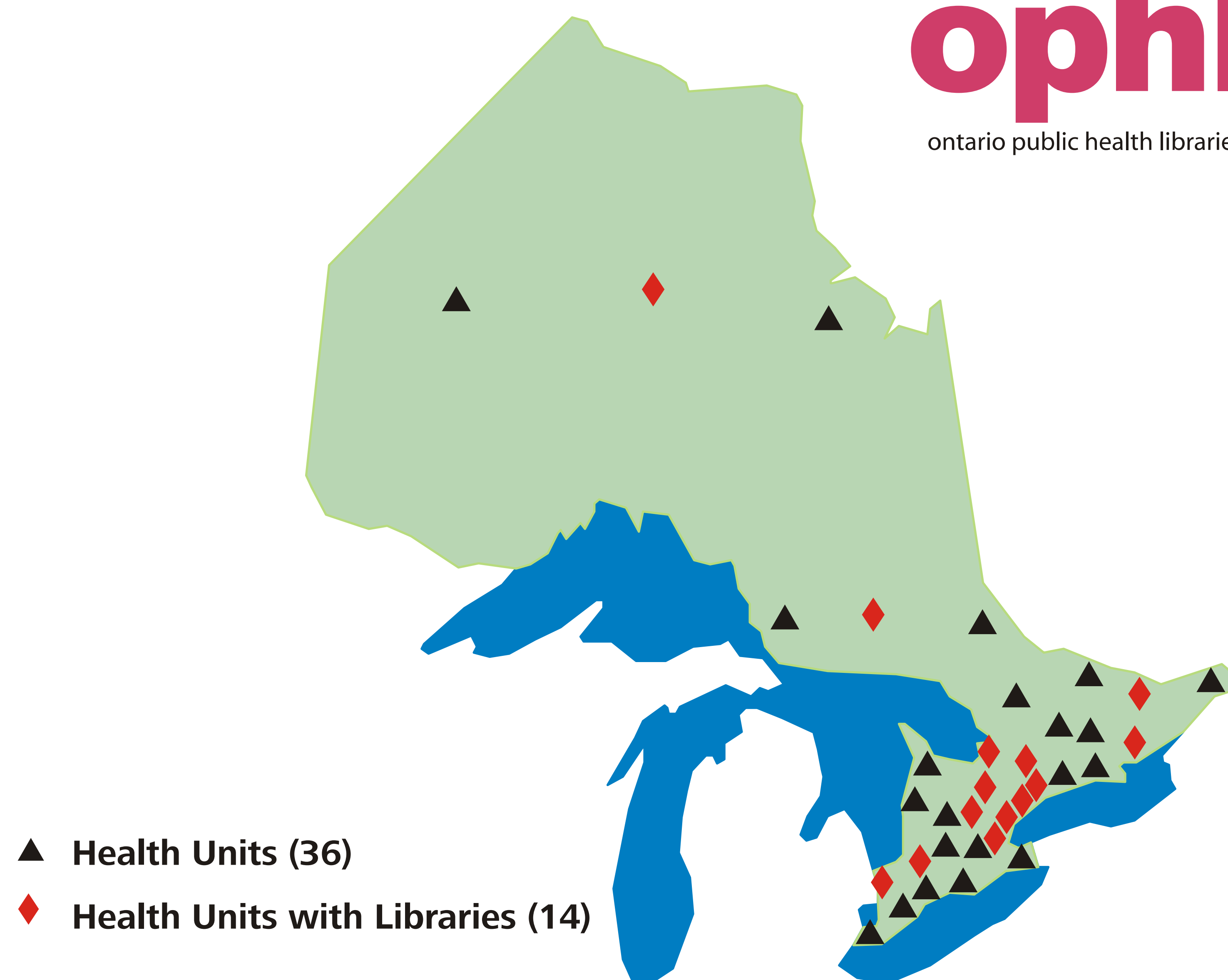


OPHLA and Public Health

OPHLA supports the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long - Term Care Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines by:

- promoting the strategic use of evidence-based public health interventions
- maximizing the capacity for providing information services and resources to Ontario's public health units
- sharing best practices
- advocating the importance for information professionals in public health

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Mandatory Health Programs and Services Guidelines

Introduction to the Standards

- Health Protection and Promotion Act specifies that boards of health must provide or ensure the provision of a minimum level of public health programs and services in specified areas
- Minister of Health develops and publishes guidelines that represent minimum standards for these programs and services

Purpose of Standards

- The purpose of the standards is to set out the minimum requirements for fundamental public health programs and services targeted at prevention of disease, health promotion and health protection

Standards

General Standards

- Equal Access
- Health Hazard Investigation
- Program Planning and Evaluation

Program Standards

Chronic Disease and Injuries

- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Early Detection of Cancer
- Injury Prevention
- Substance Abuse Prevention

Family Health

- Sexual Health
- Reproductive Health
- Child Health

Infectious Disease

- Control of Infectious Diseases
- Food Safety
- Infection Control
- Rabies Control
- Safe Water
- Sexually Transmitted Diseases
- Tuberculosis (TB) Control
- Vaccine Preventable Diseases

Accomplishments of OPHLA

OPHLA recognizes the changing public health environment and the continuing need to advocate on behalf of all public health units, for equal access to evidence based public health information.

- Consultation for "For the Public's Health: A plan of action; the final report of the Ontario Expert Panel on SARS and Infectious Disease Control"
- Acknowledgment in the Canadian Medical Association Journal entitled "Public Health Libraries core activity for Ontario surveillance system"
- OPHLA website
- Core public health resources project
- Proposal submitted to the Ministry of Health and Long - Term Care to financially support the purchase of core public health journals and electronic databases for all public health departments in Ontario

Vision

We envision the future role of OPHLA to include:

- The development and standardization of core competencies of public health librarianship
- Benchmarking practices in libraries
- Standardization of statistical data collection in public health libraries
- Advocating equal access to public health information and resources for all public health units across Ontario
- Becoming a constituent society of the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA)