

Attachment 2
DRAFT ALPHA RESOLUTION A11-1

TITLE: Conduct a Formal Review and Impact Analysis of the Health and Economic Effects of Alcohol in Ontario and Thereafter Develop a Provincial Alcohol Strategy

SPONSOR: Middlesex-London Board of Health

WHEREAS There is a well-established association between easy access to alcohol and overall rates of consumption and damage from alcohol; and (Barbor et al., 2010)

WHEREAS Ontario has a significant portion of the population drinking alcohol (81.5%), exceeding the low risk drinking guidelines (23.4%), consuming 5 or more drinks on a single occasion weekly (11.2%), and reporting hazardous or harmful drinking (15.6%); and (CAMH Monitor)

WHEREAS Ontario youth (grades 9-12) have concerning levels of alcohol consumption with 69.4% having drunk in the past year, 32.9% binge drinking (5 or more drinks), and 27.5% of students reporting drinking at a hazardous level; and (OSDUHS Report)

WHEREAS Each year alcohol puts this province in a \$456 million deficit due to direct costs related to healthcare and enforcement; and (G. Thomas, CCSA)

WHEREAS Billions of dollars are spent each year in Canada on indirect costs associated with alcohol use (illness, disability, and death) including lost productivity in the workplace and home; and (The Costs of Sub Abuse in CAN, 2002)

WHEREAS Nearly half of all deaths attributable to alcohol are from injuries including unintentional injuries (drowning, burns, poisoning and falls) and intentional injuries (deliberate acts of violence against oneself or others); and (WHO – Alcohol and Injury in EDs, 2007)

WHEREAS Regulating the physical availability of alcohol is one of the top alcohol policy practices in reducing harm; and (Barbor et al., 2010)

WHEREAS The World Health Organization (WHO, 2011) has indicated that alcohol is the world's third largest risk factor for disease burden and that the harmful use of alcohol results in approximately 2.5 million deaths each year. Alcohol is associated with increased levels of health and social costs in Ontario and is causally related to over 65 medical conditions;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (ALPHA) petition the Ontario government to conduct a formal review and impact analysis of the health and economic effects of alcohol in Ontario and develop a provincial Alcohol Strategy.

DRAFT ALPHA RESOLUTION A11-2

TITLE: Maintain the Current Liquor Licence Act (LLA) of Ontario

SPONSOR: Middlesex-London Board of Health

WHEREAS Removing designated alcohol areas at events jeopardizes the ability of servers/bar tenders to monitor the number of drinks one person has consumed and as a result, increases the possibility of over-service, over-consumption and alcohol-related harms; and (Barbor et al., 2010)

WHEREAS Removing designated alcohol areas at events increases the risks that underage youth would be able to sneak into the event either with their own alcohol or may have access to alcohol purchased by someone of legal drinking age; and (Barbor et al., 2010)

WHEREAS Alcohol consumption affects a person's judgment, coordination and reflexes and thus allowing for tiered seating is likely to increase the amount of injuries at events; and (Barbor et al., 2010)

WHEREAS There is strong and consistent evidence from a number of countries that changes to hours or days of sale have significant impacts on the volume of alcohol consumed and on the rates of alcohol-related problems; and (Barbor et al., 2010; Vingilis et al., 2007; Vingilis et al., 2005; Stockwell & Chikritzhs, 2009)

WHEREAS Research shows that the provision of alcohol at reduced or no cost increases overall alcohol consumption; and (Barbor et al., 2010; Giesbrecht et al., 2008; Mann et al., 2005)

WHEREAS Allowing the public with alcohol into areas of a restaurant, such as the kitchen, raises concerns regarding food safety and sanitation; and

WHEREAS Allowing tourist operators to offer fixed price packages that include liquor makes it difficult for servers/bar tenders to monitor the number of drinks one person has consumed and as a result, increases the risk of over-service, over-consumption and alcohol-related harms. Under the Liquor Licence Act, it is illegal to serve customers to intoxication. In an "all-you-can-drink" environment, this law is severely compromised; (Barbor et al., 2010; Thombs et al., 2009)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) petition the Ontario government to maintain the current Liquor Licence Act (LLA) of Ontario as is currently written until a formal review and impact analysis of the health and economic effects of alcohol in Ontario is completed.