

Agency for Health
Protection and Promotion

START UP

December 2008



Welcome to Start Up, a newsletter to update you on new developments as we build Ontario's first public health agency, the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion.

For additional background information, we invite you to visit the Agency's web site at www.oahpp.ca.

Message from Vivek Goel, President and CEO

We have been making great progress on our start up activities; however, this month's news marks a significant milestone for us.

I am pleased to report that on December 15, 2008, the Ontario Public Health Laboratories transferred from the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care to the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (OAHPP).

Throughout the transition process we have worked closely with the Ministry to ensure the foundation for a successful transfer. I want to thank the many staff involved from the Ministry and OAHPP for their hard work, diligence and dedication. I also want to assure the laboratory clients



and stakeholders that although governance has changed, it is "business as usual" on the operational front.

This transfer is an historic moment in the long and proud history of public health in Ontario. The work of the Public Health Laboratories is essential to our success in fulfilling our mandate to protect and promote the health of all Ontarians. We need a strong and robust laboratory to provide specialized scientific and technical advice and support across the province. The transfer allows us to build our scientific expertise on the solid foundation provided by public health laboratories. We have a unique opportunity to integrate laboratories, public health and surveillance to build a world-class organization that will be recognized for innovation and excellence.

I invite you to find out more about the [Public Health Laboratories](http://www.oahpp.ca) on our web site at www.oahpp.ca.

As 2008 comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all of you who have supported us as we build Ontario's public health agency. Thank you.

On behalf of the OAHPP staff and our Board of Directors, all best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.

Vivek Goel



Start Up is produced by the Agency for Health Protection and Promotion to update you on start up and laboratory planning activities. The Agency welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions at info@oahpp.ca.

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