

# MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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## Local public health leaders recognized by provincial organization aPHa

Northwestern Health Unit (NWHU) is proud to share that local public health leaders have been recognized provincially. Their Board of Health Chair, Doug Lawrance has been awarded the 2024 Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aPHa). Additionally, Trudy Sachowski has been elected as Chair of the Board of Directors of aPHa.

Mr. Lawrance has been on NWHU's board of health since 2019, where his leadership skills and experience have helped the agency to navigate change and advance priority work. This award recognizes Mr. Lawrance's dedication to improving the health of our area's residents including his commitment to Indigenous public health. "Doug is an outstanding supporter of public health and leads by example. He is a strong advocate for our region and our most vulnerable people, and truly deserves this recognition" says Marilyn Herbacz, Chief Executive Officer at NWHU.

Since her 2013 appointment to the NWHU Board of Health, Trudy has remained steadfast in her commitment to improving the health outcomes of the people of northwestern Ontario and across the province. She is a true champion for public health having dedicated countless hours to support local and provincial agencies. "Our agency and our province are fortunate to have Trudy advocating for public health. We are thrilled for her election as Chair of the Board of Directors of aPHa as she continues to guide work that supports a sustainable future for local public health," says Herbacz.

Lawrance and Sachowski both humbly accepted the recognition while in Toronto this month for the 2024 aPHa AGM and Conference.

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Doug Lawrance accepting the Distinguished Service Award from Dr. Charles Gardner, 2023-24 President of ALPHA.

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