

Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA)

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Organization's mandate/goals:

The Canadian Public Health Association (CPHA) holds that racism, religious intolerance and economic and social inequity are the principal contributing causes of violent conflict, and that without addressing these issues, we will not have global security. Accordingly, in a 1986 resolution, the CPHA urged the Government of Canada to advocate resolution of conflict on the basis of communication rather than military reprisal.

The CPHA is committed to redoubling its efforts to improve the health of the Canadian and world population, by supporting the strengthening of public health infrastructures and by working to increase the capacity of public health associations in Canada and abroad to contribute to peace-building and to enhance civil society. The Canadian Public Health Association has been active in the development of tools to assess the risk of violence and suicide as well as legislation and processes aimed at reducing the misuse and proliferation of small arms.

Areas of expertise relevant to 2001 UN Conference on Small Arms:

Health -- *Research methods and evaluation*

The Canadian Journal of Public Health addresses national and international health and social issues, while conferences provide a forum for both members and the public to debate major health topics. Through representation on external committees and task forces, the Association's views are presented and contribute to the decision-making process relevant to public health issues. The public health approach develops fact-based policy, which includes an analysis of the problem, the causal factors, potential interventions and an evaluation of their impacts.

Consultation, Co-Operation and Information Exchange -- *Coalition Building*

CPHA continues its support for the public health structure through its work with the Health Action Lobby on the federal budget. As well, the CPHA has taken an active role in discussions concerning the development of Canadian Institutes of Health Research.