
Ontario Multi-Agency Foodborne Outbreak/Food Recall Working Group

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(WG co-chairs)

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History

- Created in May 2006 to improve coordination of foodborne outbreak investigations between CFIA and MOHLTC
- By March 2007, OMAFRA, PHAC, CIPHI and ASPHIO had joined WG
- HC and OAHPP joined in Feb. of 2009
- MNR recently joined in early 2010

Purpose

- Purpose- To work collaboratively to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the multi-agency response to a foodborne outbreak/food recall event in Ontario

The Importance of Collaboration at all Levels of Government

- Common goals and objectives
- Communication
- Strengthen relationships/ build bridges

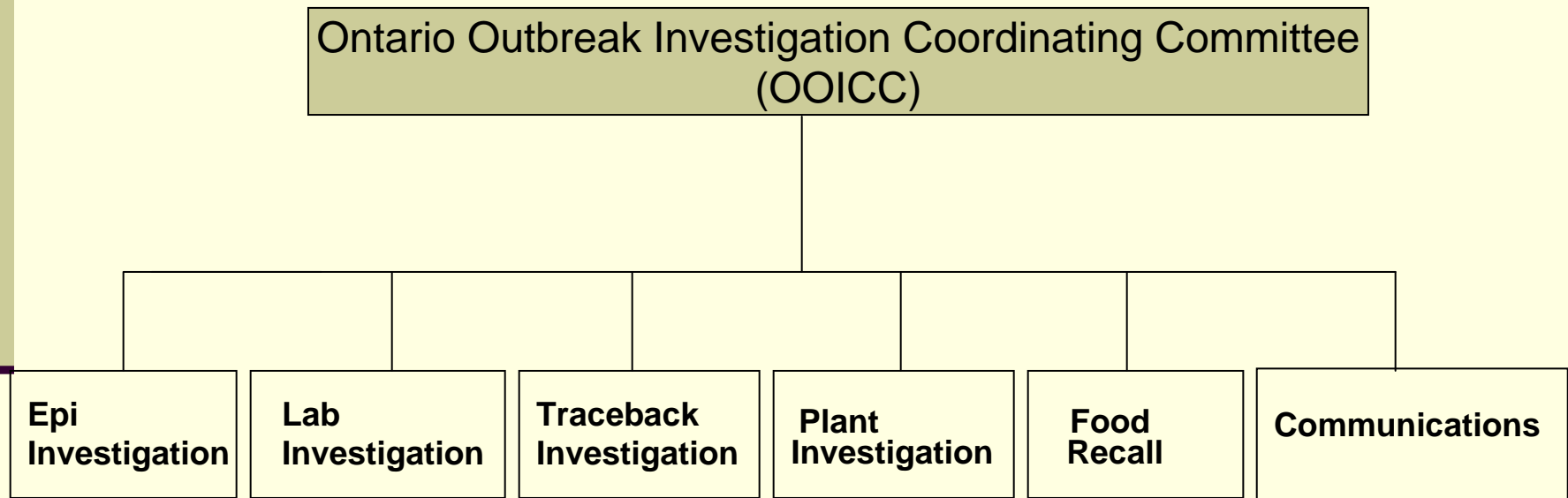
- Challenges
 - Overlapping jurisdiction
 - Differences in mandates

Objectives

- Clarify roles and responsibilities of each agency in a foodborne outbreak/food recall
- Improve the coordination of activities, where activities overlap between agencies
- Review foodborne outbreak/food recall events for the purposes of improving the handling of future events
- Communicate the findings from this WG to the respective agencies and other stakeholders where appropriate

Our Approach

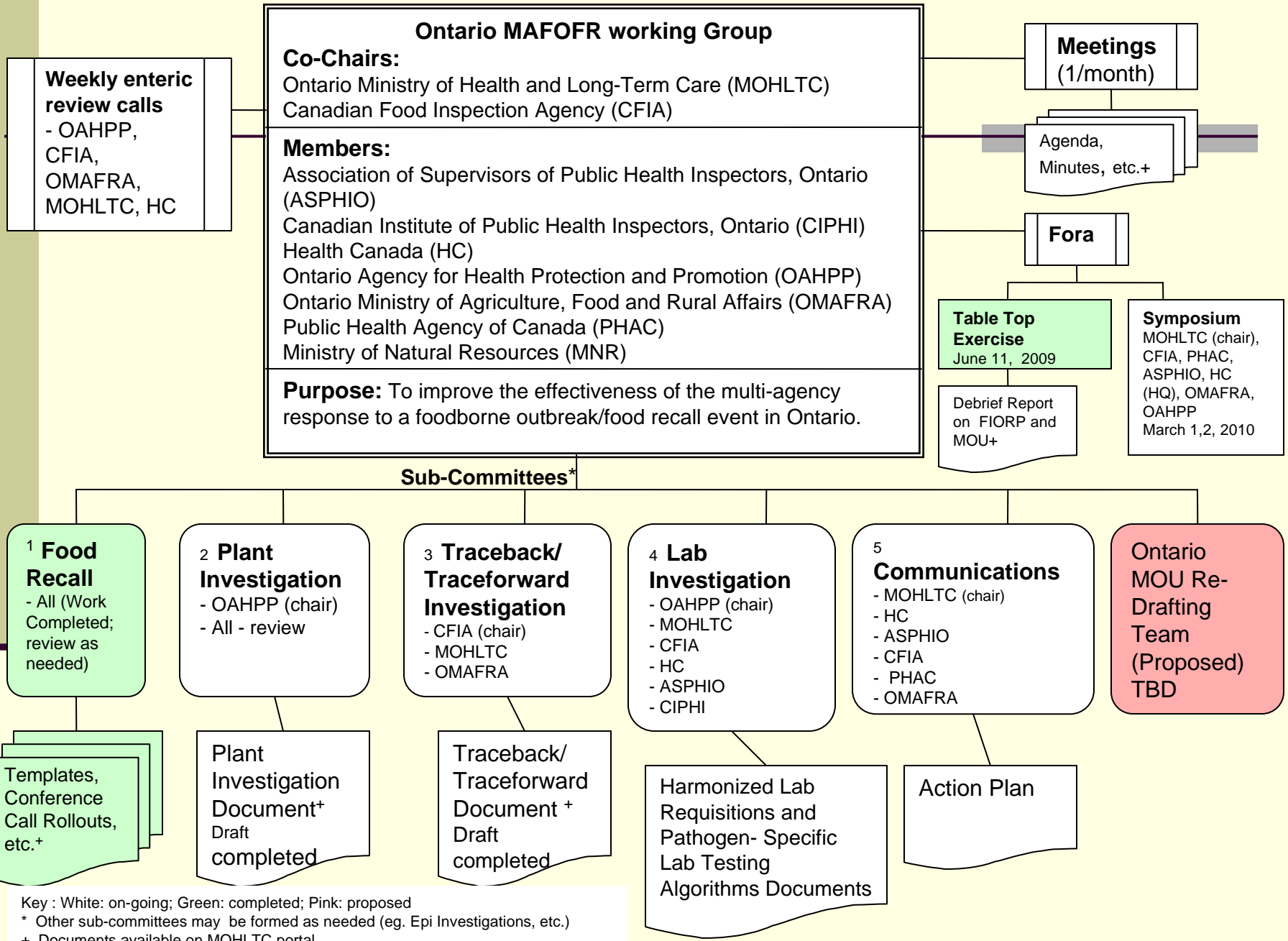
- Establish a framework of the areas that need to be strengthened



Our Approach (cont'd)

- Develop tools that can be used to align and strengthen
- By 2008 – a series of documents were developed
- Share our work with the health units –documents roll-out 2008
- 2009 –Presentations to Canadian Institute of Public Health Inspectors, Canadian Public Health Association, Guelph Food Safety Seminar Series, Association of Supervisors of Public Health Inspectors of Ontario

Overview of the Ontario Multi-Agency Foodborne Outbreak Food Recall Working Group



Documents Developed

- We have established a portal on the MOHLTC website that houses all of these documents. They can be accessed at ...

<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/portal/server.pt/community/home/209> (password required)

- Documents can also be requested from WG contact

Documents Developed- began in 2006

- Terms of Reference (version March 2009)
- Fact Sheet-CFIA Recalls-definitions (version Nov. 2006)
- Fact Sheet-CFIA Verification Procedure-Summary (version April 24, 2008)
- Information required by the CFIA for a Health Risk Assessment (version Nov. 28, 2006)

Documents Developed (cont'd)

- Standardized CFIA request for assistance for Recall Effectiveness Checks (RECs) to MOHLTC (version July 3, 2008)
- Effectiveness Checks for Food Recall recording form (version June 16, 2008)
- Instructions for Completing Effectiveness Checks for Food Recall (version July 3, 2008)
- REC Summary Form (version June 16, 2008)

Documents Roll-Out-2008

- Series of teleconferences held with Food Recall Coordinators and contacts
- All documents noted in the previous slides were shared with the health units
- In addition, PHAC presented an overview of FIORP and CFIA presented on Ontario MOU
- MOHLTC reviewed the newly created recall co-ordinator positions within the Ministry and with the health units
- Documents placed on Enteric Outbreak Portal

Symposium-2010

- Multi-agency collaborative effort
- Our objectives
 - getting to know each other
 - increase understanding of communications plans/protocols
 - Increase understanding of management of foodborne illness outbreaks

Key Contacts at each Agency

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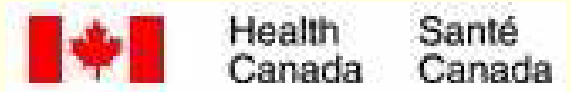
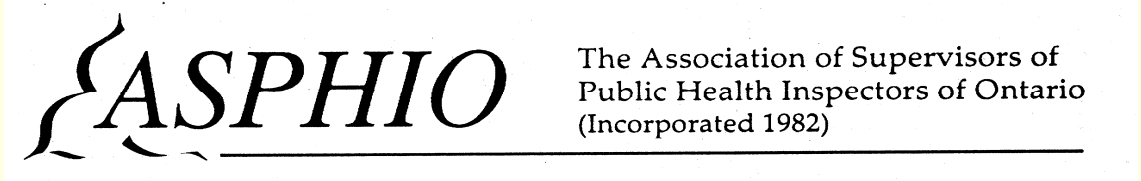
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QUESTIONS?