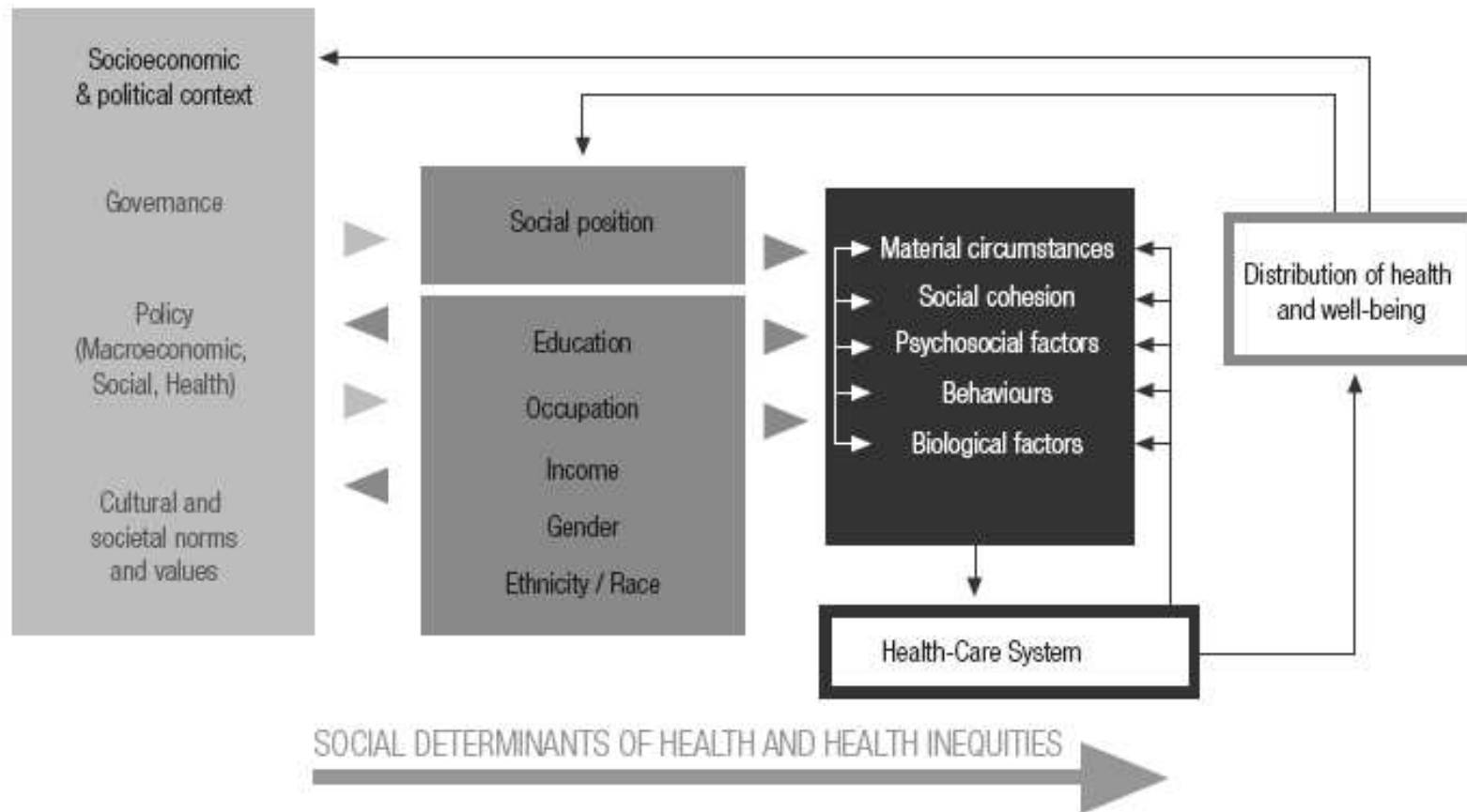


Commission on Social Determinants of Health Conceptual Framework



Source: Amended from Solar & Irwin, 2007

Commission's Overarching Recommendations:

1. Improve Daily Living Conditions
2. Tackle the Inequitable Distribution of Power, Money, and Resources
3. Measure and Understand the Problem and Assess the Impact of Action

Commission on Social Determinants of Health. (2008). *Closing the gap in a generation: Health equity through action on the social determinants of health*. Final Report on the Commission on Social Determinants of Health. Geneva: World Health Organization, 43-44.
http://whalibdoc.who.int/publications/2008/9789241563703_ena.pdf



RNAO

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario

Speaking out for health. Speaking out for nursing.

Recession Relief Coalition Hunger Inquiry

November 23, 2010

To Improve Daily Living Conditions, the government must:

- Transform Ontario's social assistance system from an incoherent tangle of contradictory rules to a person-centred system that treats clients and staff with dignity. Rates must be raised significantly to reflect the actual cost of living.
- As a down-payment towards addressing the gap between dangerously low social assistance rates and nutritional requirements, immediately increase social assistance rates by \$100 per month.
- Given the complexity of figuring out a new Nutritional Supplement, integrate deliberations about this program into the upcoming Social Assistance Review. Ensure those currently receiving the Special Diet Allowance continue to have access to this vital resource for their health needs.
- Fast-track the provincial housing plan, including capital subsidies to build affordable housing and renovate existing housing stock that is substandard, rent supplements to ensure affordable housing for low and moderate income households, and supportive community-based housing and services for those with physical, cognitive, and/or mental health needs.
- Immediately increase the minimum wage to \$13.25 per hour, with automatic annual increases indexed to the cost of living.
- Ensure the fiscal capacity to deliver all essential health, social, and environmental services by building a more progressive tax system and revenue sources that encourage environmental and social responsibility.

More information about these recommendations may be found in **Creating Vibrant Communities: RNAO's Challenge to Ontario's Political Parties:**

http://www.rnao.org/Storage/65/5964_Backgrounder.pdf

The Social Determinants of Health: The Canadian Facts (Mikkonen and Raphael 2010) considers 14 determinants of health: income and income distribution; education; unemployment and job security; employment and working conditions; early childhood development; food insecurity; housing; social exclusion; social safety network; health services; Aboriginal status; gender; race; and disability.

<http://www.thecanadianfacts.org/>