# Checklist: Is a Coalition Right for You?

|  |  | Yes | No |
|---|---|:---:|:---:|
| 1. | Does the issue affect a broad range of people? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 2. | Is the issue complex, requiring information and expertise from various sectors of the community, state, region, or country? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 3. | Is broad public awareness or education needed? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 4. | Does a gap in services or programs exist, i.e., no existing organization is taking on this work? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 5. | Do other organizations see this issue as a priority? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 6. | Are other organizations willing to work together to address this issue? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 7. | Is this issue best addressed through joint ownership and responsibility of several organizations? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 8. | Are potential coalition members willing to relinquish control over coalition activities and outcomes and actively engage in a collaborative process? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 9. | Are potential members willing to commit to and abide by democratic decision-making procedures? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 10. | Do organizational goals and policies of potential members align with those of the coalition? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 11. | Are there resources that can be shared or obtained to assist with the work? | ☐ | ☐ |
| 12. | Is there a true commitment to work together to produce results, irrespective of funder commitments for collaboration? | ☐ | ☐ |

If you responded "no" to any of the above items, carefully consider whether a coalition is the best organizational structure for your group.

*Credit: Ontario Healthy Communities Coalition, Toronto, Ont.*