

Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

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Ministère de la Santé  
et des Soins de longue durée

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Dr. Robert Kyle  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion  
480 University Avenue, Suite 300  
Toronto ON M5G 1V2

Dear Dr. Kyle:

I am pleased to write you in your capacity as Chair of the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion (operating as Public Health Ontario). Pursuant to the requirements of the Agencies and Appointments Directive, this letter sets out my expectations for Public Health Ontario (PHO) for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

In 2018-19, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (the “ministry”) will continue to work in partnership with patients, families, Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs), health service providers and health care innovators to transform our health care system today and for the future. Together we will build on a strong foundation to improve patient experiences, increase access to care, and reduce wait times – while working to reduce health disparities. Patients First created the foundation of an integrated health care system to deliver world-class patient care closer to home, with services distributed equitably across the province. As we collectively transform health care, local care planning and delivery will happen at the community level and will focus on the patient and their family as the key partners in delivering care. Local health care providers and organizations will be empowered to work collaboratively to their full potential.

I ask that PHO consider how it will contribute to this Patients First vision and work with the ministry and the LHINs to realize our shared goal of transforming Ontario’s health care system to ensure the best health for all.

As you know, pursuant to the *Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion Act* (the “Act”) your agency is mandated to provide scientific and technical advice and support to those working across sectors to protect and improve the health of Ontarians, and to carry out and support activities such as population health

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assessment, public health research, surveillance, epidemiology, planning and evaluation, in accordance with the Act.

Strengthening health care is one of the priorities in the government's 2017 Budget, A Stronger, Healthier Ontario. To ensure that Ontario's public servants provide high quality, publicly funded health care services to Ontarians with confidence, I expect Public Health Ontario to focus on:

- Effectively delivering the agency's legislative mandate within its existing provincial funding envelope;
- Working with the ministry to develop a (minimum) three to five year strategy for Public Health Ontario's laboratory services, including approaches to managing costs within its approved budget;
- Supporting the ministry in the roll-out and implementation of the new Ontario Standards for Public Health Programs and Services;
- Enhancing its efforts in health promotion and chronic disease prevention including requests from the Ministry with respect to supporting specific policy initiatives in knowledge areas such as tobacco, cannabis and alcohol and others consistent with the legislated objects of PHO;
- Continuing to advance public health knowledge in the area of infectious diseases including consideration of various advisory structures within PHO to ensure advice and expertise is aligned with the scientific and technical mandate of the agency;
- Effectively managing Public Health Ontario's expenses to align with the government's fiscal objectives to ensure the efficiency and sustainability of the board;
- Managing the operational, strategic and financial risks encountered by Public Health Ontario to help ensure business objectives are met;
- Maintaining superior client service to help Ontarians get the right care when and where they need it; and,
- Maintaining an effective system of internal controls and compliance with applicable requirements to promote transparency and accountability.

On behalf of the government, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and your staff for your commitment and work on behalf of the people of Ontario.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Eric Hoskins  
Minister

c: Dr. Peter Donnelly, President and Chief Executive Officer, Public Health Ontario  
Dr. Robert Bell, Deputy Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
Roselle Martino, Assistant Deputy Minister, Population and Public Health Division  
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health

