

alPHa's members are
the public health units
in Ontario.

alPHa Sections:

Boards of Health
Section

Council of Ontario
Medical Officers of
Health (COMOH)

**Affiliate
Organizations:**

Association of Ontario
Public Health Business
Administrators

Association of
Public Health
Epidemiologists
in Ontario

Association of
Supervisors of Public
Health Inspectors of
Ontario

Health Promotion
Ontario

Ontario Association of
Public Health Dentistry

Ontario Association of
Public Health Nursing
Leaders

Ontario Dietitians in
Public Health

April 17, 2018

Hon. Helena Jaczek
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Flr, 80 Grosvenor St,
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Jaczek,

Re: Public Health Funding Increase

On behalf of the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) and its member Medical Officers of Health, Boards of Health and Affiliate organizations, I am writing today to express our gratitude for your April 13, 2018 announcement of a base funding increase for all boards of health.

As you may be aware, our members have been experiencing significant pressures over the past three years, during which the majority have had no increase to their base funding at all. With costs rising year-over-year, this has necessitated the development of strategies to deliver mandated services despite a de facto cut in available resources. These strategies, which are resource-intensive on their own, have largely been aimed at avoiding impacts on human resources, and have included reduced frequency of certain services, reduced supports for certain programs, delay in planning for others and reduced communications. Your announcement of a 2% increase to base funding for all boards of health is therefore most welcome, as many of our members have expressed concern that avoiding impacts on human resources may not be possible if the status quo prevailed for another year.

As you have noted, public health has been given a new mandate (among others) to assist in re-orienting the health system. We welcome this role and the additional resources to help our members fulfill it. We also welcome further discussions on what will be required to strengthen our existing ones.

We recognize the challenges inherent in allocating public money in the context of competing government priorities, so we are very grateful for this additional funding as a demonstration of your Ministry's support of and commitment to public health as a unique sector.

Yours sincerely,



Carmen McGregor
alPHa President

COPY: Dr. Bob Bell, Deputy Minister, Health and Long-Term Care; Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health; Roselle Martino, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health and Long-Term Care, Population and Public Health Division