

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

May 14, 2018

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

Dear Minister Jaczek,

Re: Provincial Public Health Funding Approvals

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 this year's timely budget approvals, which followed your most welcome earlier announcement of the first funding increases for public health in three years.

As you are surely aware, our members have experienced considerable challenges in planning their budgets on an annual basis because the final approval letters for the Ministry's portion were issued far too late in the process.

Confirmation of the approved Ministry share has historically been received by boards of health eight to ten months into a budget year. Given that this share constitutes the vast majority of the annual funding for local public health, this created significant uncertainty that made effective planning and implementation of public health programs and services very difficult.

Establishing a revised budget process was in fact one of the Capacity Review Committee's key recommendations in 2006, which emphasized the importance of a predictable financial environment within which boards of health and municipalities could operate.

We see this as a very welcome step towards this reality, and we hope that this will not be an anomaly going forward. We understand the Ministry's own challenges in this regard and look forward to working with you on an approach to budget planning that will provide adequate, stable and predictable funding for our mandated public health programs and services.

Yours sincerely,



Carmen McGregor,
alPHa President

COPY: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Roselle Martino, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health and Long-Term Care,
Population and Public Health Division
Brent Feeney, Manager, Funding and Oversight Unit, Health and Long-Term Care