September 19, 2019

Honourable Christine Elliott
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
Hepburn Block
10th Floor
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1E9
Sent via email: christine.elliott@pc.ola.org

Dear Minister Elliott

RE: Immunization for School Children – Seamless Immunization Registry

At its meeting held on September 19, 2019, the Board of Health for the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit discussed correspondence received from York Region with regard to protecting school-age children through immunization.

York Region’s Regional Council adopted the following recommendations on May 16, 2019.

- Regional Council endorse the position of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health in support of a seamless immunization registry whereby health care providers directly input immunization information at the time of vaccine administration.

Immunizing children is one of the safest and most effective ways to prevent illness and death from many serious contagious diseases. Vaccines are one of the most cost-effective health interventions in modern medicine.

An electronic system of immunization registry is of critical importance for centralizing data records. Accessing immunization data through Electronic Medical Records (EMR) and the Digital Health Immunization Repository (DHIR) Integration Project will allow for safe, reliable and seamless access for health care providers to report immunizations directly to public health. This will not only save health care dollars in the long term but will provide an integrated system that will be more efficient and effective.

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We appreciate your support for this important public health initiative.

BOARD OF HEALTH FOR HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

Doug Elmslie, Chair, Board of Health

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Cc (via email): The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier
Jamie Schmale, MP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock,
Kim Rudd, MP, Northumberland-Peterborough South
The Hon. Laurie Scott, MPP Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
David Piccini, MPP Northumberland-Peterborough South
Dr. David Williams, Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health
Dr. Paul Roumeliotis, Chair, Council of Medical Officers of Health
Ontario Boards of Health
Loretta Ryan, Association of Local Public Health Agencies

Attachment