December 3, 2009

Honourable Deb Matthews  
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care  
10th Flr., Hepburn Block  
80 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto, ON  M7A 2C4

Dear Minister:

At its meeting of November 18, 2009, the Chatham-Kent Board of Health reviewed the COMOH Resolution regarding 100% funding for the Needle Exchange Program. Following a period of discussion, it was moved that:

"Administration prepare a letter to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, with a copy to aPHa, supporting the resolution of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health requesting restoration of 100% funding for the province's Needle Exchange Program."

The Board is cognizant that local and provincial strategies have worked together to support harm reduction, which in turn helps prevent the spread of disease in the community. Ensuring 100% funding for this program will help to keep our community healthy.

Sincerely,

Brian King, Chair  
Chatham-Kent Board of Health

c. Dr. Paul Roumelen, Chair, Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health  
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies