March 7, 2016

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen’s Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Wynne:

Re: Enactment of Legislation to Enforce Infection Prevention and Control Practices within Invasive Personal Service Settings

At its meeting on February 18, 2016, the Sudbury & District Board of Health carried the following resolution #11-16:

WHEREAS adherence to Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) best practices is essential in reducing the risk of infectious disease transmission through invasive procedures performed in personal services settings such as tattoo and body piercing establishment; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Standards requires that boards of health perform routine inspections of all personal services settings at least once per year to ensure adherence to best practices for IPAC; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Public Health Standards requires that boards of health investigate complaints regarding potential health hazards including IPAC lapses in personal services settings; and

WHEREAS provincial legislation does not currently exist outlining legal requirements for IPAC practices and operator responsibility and;

WHEREAS creation of provincial legislation governing invasive Personal Services Settings would support a consistent progressive enforcement model amongst Ontario’s 36 public health units;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sudbury & District Board of Health support the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit motion recommending that the Government of Ontario enact legislation implementing IPAC requirements for invasive personal services settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act with short-form wording under the Provincial Offences Act.
FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT a copy of this motion be submitted to the Premiere of Ontario, the Minister of Health and Long-term Care, local members of Provincial Parliament, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa), and all Ontario Boards of Health.

It is the Board’s hope that the Government of Ontario will seriously consider enacting provincial legislation implementing IPAC requirements for invasive personal services settings under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, supported with short-form wording under the Provincial Offenses Act.

Sincerely,

Original signed by

Penny Sutcliffe, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health and Chief Executive Officer

cc: The Honorable Dr. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
France Gélinas, MPP, Nickel Belt
Michael Mantha, MPP, Algoma-Manitoulin
Glenn Thibeault, MPP, Sudbury
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
Ontario Boards of Health