

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

November 21, 2019

Hon. Christine Elliott  
Minister of Health  
10th Flr, 80 Grosvenor St,  
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Elliott,

**Re: Low Income Seniors' Dental Plan**

---

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 congratulate you for the implementation of the Ontario Seniors' Dental Care Plan (OSDCP).

alPHa's long-standing position is that overall health is impossible without oral health, and we remain strong advocates for publicly funded programs that remove financial barriers to prevention and treatment services for low-income Ontarians of all ages.

Poor oral health diminishes quality of life at any age and if costs of preventive and acute dental care are prohibitive, measurable deterioration of overall health will follow and, in many cases, leave emergency rooms in Ontario's hospitals as the only option.

Ontario has made great strides in making oral health services more accessible to those in greatest need and the implementation of the OSDCP is a welcome next step.

Our members look forward to playing their role as a key service provider for this important program. To discuss this further or to schedule a meeting, please have your staff contact Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHa, at [loretta@alphaweb.org](mailto:loretta@alphaweb.org) or 647-325-9594.

Yours sincerely,



Carmen McGregor  
alPHa President

**COPY:** Hon. Raymond Cho, Minister for Seniors and Accessibility  
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Dianne Alexander, Director, Health Promotion and Prevention Policy and Programs Branch, Ministry of Health  
Paul Sharma, alPHa Rep., Ontario Association of Public Health Dentistry