March 30, 2022

The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health and Deputy Premier
Ministry of Health
College Park 5th Floor, 777 Bay St
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Elliott:


On March 24, 2022 at a regular meeting of the Windsor-Essex County Board of Health, the Board considered a letter from Cynthia St. John, President of the Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA) to Dr. Kieran Moore, CMOH, requesting that Dr. Moore consider extending Ontario Regulation 116/20 Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health for the duration of public health units’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The following motion was passed:

Motion: That the WECHU Board of Health support the letter from the AOPHBA to the CMOH, Dr. Kieran Moore, requesting that Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health be extended for the duration of public health units’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

CARRIED

The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit fully supports the above recommendation, and thanks you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary McNamara, Chair
Windsor-Essex County Board of Health

c: Nicole Dupuis, CEO, WECHU
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, alPHA
Ontario Boards of Health
Dr. Kieran, Moore, CMOH
Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
February 9, 2022

Dr. Kieran Moore  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Ministry of Health

RE:  Ontario Regulation 116/20, Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health

Dear Dr. Moore,

On behalf of the Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA), I am writing to you concerning the Ontario Regulation 116/20, Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health.

This Regulation, in place since April 2020, has proven invaluable in ensuring that public health units (PHUs) are able to effectively respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since April 2020, public health work has evolved and changed rapidly in response to both local and provincial directions and demands in areas such as case and contact management, outbreak management in our most vulnerable settings, the development and implementation of the vaccination program, and the continued support and leadership provided to community partners including businesses, municipalities, schools, health related agencies, etc.

It is the opinion of the Association Executive that public health units’ continued response to the COVID-19 pandemic will be significantly negatively impacted if PHUs do not have the flexibility necessary to deploy staff how and where needed. PHUs have one or more unions within their employ and many of our members have noted that the restrictions of the various collective agreements often do not allow redeployment of PHU staff to different roles or different areas within the PHU, nor assignment of work on weekends, evenings, and holidays, all of which have been critical to vaccine clinics. The flexibility that this Ontario Regulation provides is critical to our ability to continue to plan and execute both local and provincial directives in line with our mandate, for the balance of 2022.

We respectively ask that you consider extending Ontario Regulation 116/20 Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health for the duration of public health units’ response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Cynthia St. John  
President  
Association of Ontario Public Health Business Administrators (AOPHBA)

c.  Brent Feeney, Manager, Funding and Oversight, Office of the CMOH, Ministry of Health  
Teresa Bendo, Secretary, AOPHBA  
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies (aLPHA)