

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

Office of the Minister

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Ministère de la Santé
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APR 13 2018

Dear Colleagues,

As a former medical officer of health, I know the vital role public health plays every day in protecting and promoting the health of all Ontarians. The release of the new Ontario Public Health Standards in January of this year outlined a new mandate for public health focused on outcomes, and included a strengthened accountability framework to demonstrate the impact of the work of public health.

Legislated requirements for board of health and LHIN engagement in the *Patients First Act* ensures public health plays a key role in integrated planning - to include upstream interventions that will improve health, reduce health inequities and assist in re-orienting the health system.

In order to support the integral role of public health as a unique sector within an integrated health system, I am pleased to announce a two percent base funding increase to all boards of health for the provision of public health programs and services. An additional one percent increment will be allocated based on local need as detailed in the board of health Annual Service Plans submitted to the ministry in March.

This totals an additional \$15M base funding investment in public health, on top of approximately \$16M in one-time funding for a number of initiatives associated with the delivery of public health programs in Ontario.

This investment demonstrates my government's commitment to ensure Ontarians are able to recognize, value and benefit from the excellent work of public health across the health system and in local communities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Helena Jaczek
Minister

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