

**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care**

Office of the Minister

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Dear Board of Health Chairs and Medical Officers of Health:

When I released the *Patients First: Action Plan for Health Care*, I committed to transforming our health care system to make it more transparent, accountable, and sustainable.

Our government continues to work toward this commitment, and I am pleased to formally announce a review and modernization of the Ontario Public Health Standards (OPHS).

The OPHS modernization will result in a renewed set of program standards that are responsive to emerging evidence and priority issues in public health and are aligned with the government's strategic vision and priorities for public health within a transformed health system.

An Executive Committee is currently being established to provide strategic leadership to oversee the modernization. An Advisory Committee will be convened to provide expert advice and make recommendations on a set of evidence-based standards, reflective of current accepted practice, that will support system accountability, transparency, and demonstrate value for money.

Work on the OPHS modernization will begin shortly and will conclude December 2016.

Throughout the modernization exercise, there will be extensive consultation and engagement with the public health community and others. I look forward to continuing to work with you to deliver on our shared goal of ensuring the good health of all Ontarians.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Eric Hoskins  
Minister

c: Dr. Robert Bell, Deputy Minister  
Dr. David C. Williams, Acting Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Roselle Martino, Executive Director, Public Health Division  
Jackie Wood, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Promotion Division