

June 27, 2014

The Honourable Kathleen Wynne  
Premier, Government of Ontario  
99 Wellesley Street West  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
Premier@ontario.ca

**Re: Community Wellness and Culture of Health Strategy**

Dear Premier Wynne,

On behalf of the Association of Ontario Health Centres we congratulate you on your election as Premier and look forward to working with your government to implement the healthcare components of your platform.

The Association of Ontario Health Centres (AOHC) is the voice of community-governed primary health care in Ontario with 113 member centres in communities across the province serving approximately 500,000 people. Our members include: 75 Community Health Centres (CHCs), 10 Aboriginal Health Access Centres (AHACs), 14 Community Family Health Teams (CFHTs), and 13 Nurse Practitioner-Led Clinics (NPLCs).

We are particularly pleased and impressed with your commitment to develop a Community Wellness and Culture of Health Strategy, with Community Hubs. We believe this is an important new direction for upstream health care thinking and AOHC is keen to be part of further work to flesh out the strategy.

Our Association has been engaged in policy and program work for the past year to explore how to advance health equity and promote the sustainability of the healthcare system by moving from our current fragmented illness care system, to an integrated Community Health and Wellbeing System. A number of our members function as Community Hubs providing a range of community services, as well as primary care and health promotion programs. For example, Langs Community Hub in Cambridge, including the Langs Community Health Centre, is co-located with 20 community health and social service partners providing a wide range of social, recreational and health services for all ages. We would like to invite you to visit Langs as a great example of the Community Hub concept.

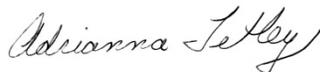
We would also like to highlight our annual celebration of Community Health and Wellbeing Week which could provide an opportunity for your government to profile this new commitment and launch your Community Wellness agenda. During the week of September 29-October 4 AOHC members and other organizations across the province will be holding community events to shift the conversation about healthcare and focus on improving health and wellbeing. We would welcome your involvement and can follow up directly with your staff if this is of interest.

Premier Wynne, congratulations on your win and we hope to work closely with the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and other stakeholders in developing and implementing a Community Wellness and Culture of Health Strategy for Ontario.

Yours sincerely,



Cate Melito  
Board Chair, Association of Ontario Health Centres



Adrianna Tetley,  
CEO, Association of Ontario Health Centres

cc. AOHC Board  
AOHC members  
Tatum Wilson, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Premier  
Tom Teahen, Chief of Staff, Office of the Premier