



May 30, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos
Minister of Health, Canada
House of Commons
hcmminister.ministresc@hc-sc.gc.ca

Honourable Dominic LeBlanc
Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Infrastructure and Communities, Canada
iga.minister-ministre.aig@pco-bcp.gc.ca

Honourable Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health, Ontario
sylvia.jones@ontario.ca

Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ontario
minister.mah@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Ministers:

Re: Support for Improved Indoor Air Quality in Public Settings

I am pleased to share with you Public Health Sudbury & Districts' Board of Health motion in support Peterborough Public Health's calls to the [Federal](#) and [Provincial](#) ministers for resources and policy leavers to improve indoor air quality in public settings. At its meeting on April 20, 2023, the Board of Health carried the following resolution #17-23:

WHEREAS the virus that causes COVID-19 (SARS-CoV2), as well as other respiratory viruses, are spread principally through respiratory droplets and aerosols; and

WHEREAS ventilation can affect how well respiratory droplets and aerosols are removed from an area. As noted by the [Ontario Science Table](#), "aerosols play a role in the transmission of SARS-CoV-2, especially in poorly ventilated indoor areas"; and

WHEREAS [Canada's Chief Science Advisor](#) recommends that owners and operators of indoor public facilities "scale-up and monitor effective prevention

Sudbury

1300 rue Paris Street
Sudbury ON P3E 3A3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.522.5182

Elm Place

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON POM 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON POP 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

34 rue Birch Street
Box / Boîte 485
Chapleau ON POM 1K0
t: 705.860.9200
f: 705.864.0820

toll-free / sans frais

1.866.522.9200

phsd.ca



Re: Working Towards Improving Indoor Air Quality in Public Settings.
May 30, 2023
Page 2

interventions, such as improving ventilation in schools, workplaces and public places as part of a first line of prevention of SARS-CoV2 infection and other respiratory/airborne pathogens”;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Health for Public Health Sudbury & Districts endorse the letters dated March 3, 2023, from Peterborough Public Health to federal and provincial ministers calling for investments and policy levers to improve indoor air quality in public settings such that health is further protected for all; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be shared with relevant federal and provincial government ministers, area members of parliament and provincial parliament, the Chief Medical Officer of Health, and Ontario boards of health.

Poor indoor air quality poses an environmental health risk that disproportionately impacts vulnerable Canadians. Therefore, as the Chair of our Board of Health, I request that the Provincial government implement a stepwise approach through amendments to the Ontario Building Code, requiring improved air quality standards in new construction; and that the Federal and Provincial governments identify, fund, and implement strategies such as grants, tax breaks, and other incentives, that assist owners to improve indoor air quality in all public settings.

Sincerely,



René Lapierre
Chair, Board of Health

cc: Carol Hughes, Member of Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing
Marc Serré, Member of Parliament, Nickel Belt
Viviane Lapointe, Member of Parliament, Sudbury
Michael Mantha, Member of Provincial Parliament, Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing
France Gélinas, Member of Provincial Parliament, Nickel Belt
Jamie West, Member of Provincial Parliament, Sudbury
Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Loretta Ryan, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies
All Ontario Boards of Health