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Mike Schreiner, MPP Guelph

Hon. Minister Christine Elliott Ministry of Health College Park 5th Flr., 777 Bay St. Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

January 18, 2022

Dear Minister Elliott,

I am writing to you on behalf of my constituents and health-care workers from across the province asking your Ministry to immediately transfer funds so that PSW wage enhancements can be distributed to *all* qualifying health-care workers as promised and deserved. While I was glad to see that your Ministry extended the top-up to our frontline workers, many constituents have indicated that they have not received their pay enhancement since August 2021.

We understand that funds have not been transferred by the Ministry of Health to all health care providers for the PSW pandemic pay enhancement. Health-care facilities are unable to pay their workers until they receive the transfer of funds from your Ministry, thus leaving thousands of health-care workers underpaid.

As the Omicron variant sweeps through our province, we need to ensure that Ontarians on the frontlines are being compensated and treated fairly. The inconsistency between health-care facilities in providing the wage enhancements to their workers has resulted in great stress and feelings of disrespect for those who are still waiting for their pay.

From my office's contact with your Ministry, it is apparent that many MPP offices around the province are also reaching out with similar issues. The lack of information and transparency on the matter is of great concern.

At a time when our healthcare system is experiencing such a staffing crisis, we cannot let the wages for our front line workers hang in uncertainty. We need to do better and do whatever we can to retain our workforce.

I hope that your Ministry appreciates the urgency of this issue and that you will transfer the funds for the PSW wage enhancements to health-care facilities immediately.

Sincerely,

Mike Seh-

Mike Schreiner MPP, Guelph