



**Neighbourhood
Pharmacy**
Association of Canada

Association canadienne
**des pharmacies
de quartier**

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Mr. Patrick Dicerni
Assistant Deputy Minister and Executive Officer
Drugs and Devices Division
Ontario Public Drug Programs Ministry of Health
438 University Avenue, 10th Floor, Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

May 15, 2020

Dear Patrick,

On behalf of Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada, I'd like to express my sincere appreciation for the commitment and dedication you and your team have demonstrated on the important issue of 30-day supply. It's clear from the policy decision announced on May 13, 2020 that you acknowledge how critical it is for Ontarians to access their medicines in a predictable, affordable way. Pharmacists and pharmacies continue to do what's needed, on the frontlines, to safeguard the pharmaceutical supply chain. We are pleased to see your government supporting pharmacists in carrying out this very important role on behalf of broader supply chain stakeholders.

Amidst all the turbulence caused by this pandemic, it's reassuring to know that you indeed value the steady, informed perspective of health system stakeholders. It's by working directly with the front lines, and considering the perspectives of the thousands of health professionals who provide care to patients and communities every single day, that we can achieve the best policy outcomes. Through the decision you have taken on 30-day supply, it's evident that you recognize the value of frontline expertise and, most of all, you share our members' focus on ensuring a high quality of patient care.

As we all confront the steady stream of challenges posed by this pandemic, we are proud of our members. They have risen to meet the challenges and have stepped up to be an additional level of support and frontline care in Ontario. Now, more than ever, people are relying on their trusted local pharmacists and pharmacies. We want to highlight that our sector and organization stand ready to continue to support government as you navigate the future of healthcare and how it will be delivered, just as we will continue to serve our patients and communities throughout this pandemic and beyond. We hope to continue having constructive dialogue with you and your team, discussing the expanded role that pharmacy can continue playing in Ontario's public health response as well as in creating capacity in primary care as we begin to reopen our economy.

We are pleased for the opportunity to continue to work with you and offer insights that can help inform the development of policies that support patients. We welcome future discussions as we work towards our shared objective of achieving the best health outcomes for Ontarians.

Keep well and all the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Hanna', with a small dot at the end.

Sandra Hanna, RPh
Chief Executive Officer
Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada