

**Ministry of Children
and Youth Services**

Minister's Office

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May 13, 2016

Dr. Elizabeth Richardson
Medical Officer of Health
City of Hamilton Public Health Services
1 Hughson Street North, 4th Floor
Hamilton, Ontario
L8R 3L5

Dear Dr. Richardson:

I recognize the importance of the Healthy Babies Healthy Children (HBHC) program in supporting vulnerable families who are at risk and helping children to achieve their full potential. I have heard from many public health units, municipalities and Boards of Health regarding the sustainability of the program.

In response, I have asked my ministry officials to undertake a third party review of the HBHC program. The purpose of the review is to assess if the existing HBHC delivery model best meets Ontario's needs, and to identify opportunities to address program sustainability and alignment with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services' mandate.

The input of the public health units will be an essential component in the review process. The consultants will be engaging each of the 36 public health units to understand the unique needs and challenges across the province. The name of the consulting team and details of the review process will be provided after the ministry selects the successful vendor to conduct the review. If you should have any questions pertaining to the review, you can forward them to Stacey Weber, Acting Director, Early Child Development Branch, by e-mail at stacey.weber@ontario.ca, or by phone at 416-327-7386.

I would like to take this opportunity to convey my appreciation for your commitment, support and work in delivering the HBHC program, and in serving children and families in their respective communities as effectively as possible.

Sincerely

Tracy MacCharles
Minister

c: Mr. Alexander Bezzina, Deputy Minister
Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Chair, City of Hamilton Public Health Services Board of Health
Ms. Stacey Weber, Acting Director, Early Child Development Branch