

Ministry of Health

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DEC 10 2019**DEC 17 2019**

Fred Eisenberger
Mayor of Hamilton
71 Main Street West, 2nd Floor
Hamilton ON L8P 4Y5

Dear Mr. Eisenberger:

Thank you for your letter to the Honourable Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and myself regarding a seamless provincial immunization registry.

Immunization is a core component of Ontario's public health system, saving lives through the prevention of disease. The Immunization of School Pupils Act helps to protect children from many serious diseases by ensuring their vaccinations are up-to-date. Local public health units play an important role in supporting the successful implementation of the immunization requirements under the Act.

The Ministry of Health (the ministry) has been working over the last several years to provide appropriate digital tools to the public, health care providers, and public health to enable them to access and maintain their (or their patient's) complete immunization history. The provincial Digital Health Immunization Repository (DHIR) has been improving since its inception, with the ultimate goal being a fully interoperable system for immunization records in Ontario. In November 2018, the ministry began working with eHealth Ontario, OntarioMD, and electronic medical record vendors to enable transmission of immunization information from electronic medical records to the DHIR.

The ministry is committed to work towards the integration of immunization records across health care providers and organizations and to a strong and effective immunization system which will result in healthier children, healthier communities, and safer schools throughout the province

The Minister and I thank you for taking the time to share your views on this important public health matter and for your continued collaboration as we work together to improve the health and well-being of all Ontarians.

Yours truly,



David C. Williams, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Chief Medical Officer of Health

