

Ministry of Health

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January 13, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chairpersons, Boards of Health
Medical Officers of Health, Public Health Units
Chief Executive Officers, Public Health Units

RE: 2021 COVID-19 Extraordinary Costs

Ontario's public health system has demonstrated remarkable responsiveness to COVID-19, as the outbreak has evolved locally and globally. The government acknowledges the extraordinary and continuing efforts of the public health sector, including public health units, to monitor, detect, and contain COVID-19 in the province.

For the 2021 funding year, public health units are expected to take all necessary measures to continue to respond to COVID-19 in their catchment areas, support the Ministry of Health in the provincial roll-out of the COVID-19 Vaccine Program, and continue to maintain critical public health programs and services as identified in Board of Health approved pandemic plans.

As the COVID-19 response continues, we do anticipate that many public health units will continue to incur additional expenses to support these efforts. In recognition of these unique circumstances, we want to assure you that there will be a process for public health units to request reimbursement of COVID-19 extraordinary costs incurred in 2021. Similar to previous processes, we ask that these costs be those over and above what can be managed from within the budget of the Board of Health, and that you continue to track these costs separately.

Thank you for the important service that your public health unit provides to Ontarians, and your ongoing dedication and commitment to addressing the public health needs of Ontarians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Christine Elliott'.

Christine Elliott
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

c: Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health
Associate Medical Officers of Health, Public Health Units
Business Administrators, Public Health Units