



LYTTON PARK RESIDENTS' ORGANIZATION INC.  
Box 45031, 2482 Yonge Street  
Toronto, M4P 3E3

10 May 2019

MPP Robin Martin  
2882 Dufferin Street  
Toronto, ON M6B 3S6

Dear Ms Martin:

### **Proposed Cuts to Public Health Funding**

We urge you to speak to the Minister of Health and request that funding be restored to our most vital public health services.

Public Health Programs keep our community healthy, especially the most vulnerable. Money invested early in health saves much more money in the future. In an editorial, the Toronto Sun said, *such preventive work is often taken for granted and may even be invisible in that, when they succeed, nothing happens. You don't see headlines such as, 'Child does not die of meningitis'.*

On 18 April 2019, just prior to the long weekend, the Ford Government announced significant cuts to funding public health, retroactive to 1 April 2019, and after the municipal budget had already been approved. These changes would result in nearly \$1,000,000,000 cuts in funding to Toronto Public Health over ten years.

Scientific evidence, and Ontario's own experiences with SARS and with Walkerton's water-quality crisis, demonstrate that cutting public health spending increases long-term health costs. Research shows that every \$1 invested in immunization yields \$16 of health-care savings. The current measles outbreak is an excellent reminder of the importance of immunization programs, including public education to maximize compliance. Studies show that every \$1 invested in smoking prevention, results in \$20 of health-care savings.

Programs delivered by Public Health in Eglinton-Lawrence include:

- 52 child-care programs which are inspected to reduce the risk of infectious diseases and other health risks
- 20 breakfast programs
- 13 school immunization programs
- 4 Active and Safe Transportation programs
- 2 dental clinics
- 1 diabetes prevention program;
- 1 long-term care centre with food inspections and infection control

Please do what you can to keep these programs for our community.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this issue,  
Maureen Kapral,  
Vice-President, Lytton Park Residents' Organization

c: Mayor John Tory  
Councillor Mike Colle  
PC MPPs

*The Lytton Park Residents' Organization ("LPRO") is an incorporated non-profit association founded in 1987 representing member households from Lawrence Avenue West to Roselawn and Briar Hill Avenues, Yonge Street to Saguenay and Proudfoot Avenue.*

<https://lpro.wordpress.com>