

May 1, 2020

**MEMORANDUM TO: Health System Organizations and Providers****SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Preparations and Actions**

The Command Table continued discussions today on actions and preparations needed to support the implementation of the government's recovery plan, [A Framework for Reopening our Province](#), while continuing to protect vulnerable populations. Ongoing activities include:

- **Monitoring public health targets and indicators** to support government decision-making on the safe and gradual reopening of businesses and the easing of the emergency public health measures;
- Continued planning for a **staged, measured plan to resume elective/scheduled surgical procedures**, including guidance on the resumption of procedures, while maintaining health system surge capacity and local capacity to provide health human resources and Infection Prevention and Control supports for long-term care homes and other congregate settings;
- Working with sector partners **to improve the consistency, timeliness, and accuracy of public health data collection and reporting** to better understand the course of the pandemic across sectors, as well as the impacts of Ontario's actions to prevent and address outbreaks and flatten the curve;
- A continued focus on responding to and preventing outbreaks in long-term care homes, including **completing testing of all long-term care home residents within two weeks**; and
- Issuing new temporary emergency [orders](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to manage critical health care human resources during COVID-19.

We thank you for your continued work to support the implementation of our provincial efforts to respond to the pandemic and plan for a phased recovery.

Sincerely,

*(original signed by)*Helen Angus  
Deputy Minister  
Ministry of HealthDr. David Williams  
Chief Medical Officer of Health  
Ministry of HealthMatthew Anderson  
President and CEO  
Ontario Health