

**Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care**

Office of the Deputy Minister

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**Ministère de la Santé
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DATE: October 19, 2006

TO: MOHLTC Stakeholders

FROM: Ron Sapsford
Deputy Minister

RE: Transition Update

As you know, our Ministry is undergoing an important change, one that will allow it to fulfill its future role in supporting and guiding Ontario's health system, and one that will allow it to continue to advise government in the best way possible. As we continue with our vision of implementing the stewardship model for our Ministry's transition, I am dedicated to communicating our plan for making wise use of all of our resources as we move forward.

Since I announced that the Ministry would undergo a transition to a new stewardship organization last January, much work has been done to move us closer to that vision.

During the past few months the Ministry's Transition Team and assistant deputy ministers have been working to match job functions to the new ministry organization. We are now putting in place a transitional organization structure which will be fully phased in by December 31, 2007.

Initially, we will be making changes at the Senior Management Group (SMG) level and implementing an appointment and recruitment process for this level of the Ministry. The changes announced for the SMG level are expected to be completed in early 2007. Changes at other staff levels will begin in mid-2007.

During the upcoming changes, I ask that you continue to work with your existing Ministry contacts, who will inform you of any staffing changes as we move forward.

I have attached a copy of the Ministry's transitional organization structure for your information.

In some cases, to ensure that ministry services are maintained, entire branches will move over to the transitional ministry structure. All staff and all reporting relationships will remain intact for now; however, these branches will be reviewed as part of the next phase of the transition, or in 2008/09.

Branches undertaking special projects, such as wait times and Family Health Teams, will also move directly into the transitional structure. As these projects are completed, the ministry's senior management team will evaluate the work that needs to continue and make decisions about where in the organization it should happen.

Under the changes announced today, the Public Health Division will move directly into the transitional structure and will assume responsibility for the Public Health Laboratories. In addition, the Health Human Resources Division's special mandate to address the province's health-care professional challenges will be extended to 2009.

Other branches will not be affected by the restructuring of the ministry.

While changes such as this one may present challenges over the coming months, all of us at the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care will continue to conduct business as usual and perform our daily jobs to the best of our ability. All those in need of health-care services rely on our Ministry and all of you to ensure the health care system functions efficiently. I am counting on your help and support as we move through these changes.

I would like to thank you in advance for your attention, and look forward to a continuing exchange of information as we move through this next phase of our transition.