

September 19, 2012

The Honourable Deb Matthews
Minister
Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2X4

Dear Minister Matthews:

On behalf of the Board of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU) we would like to commend Dr, Arlene King, Chief Medical Officer of Health and her expert panel on the report titled Oral Health, *More than Just Cavities* April 2012 and to endorse the four recommendations. We also endorse the advocacy efforts of the Ontario Oral Health Alliance(OOHA) for the Ontario government to extend provincial dental programs to include adults who cannot afford emergency dental services . The Board of Health endorses these recommendations and encourages the Ministry of Health and Long Term-Care to take action on these areas.

The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Board of Health recognizes the need for access to emergency dental care funding for low income adults without dental benefits and endorses the efforts of the Ontario Oral Health Alliance in bringing this serious health concern to the attention of Members of Provincial Parliament.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Barry Ward
Board of Health Chair

BW:BJ:mk

- c. Ontario Chief Medical Officer of Health
Ontario Boards of Health
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