



October 17, 2017

Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
Office of the Minister
Ministry of Health and Long Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins,

As the President of the Ontario Branch of Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacist (CSHP-OB), I would like to offer our organization's assistance in combating the opioid crisis.

CSHP is the national voluntary organization of pharmacists committed to patient care through the advancement of safe, effective medication use in hospitals and other collaborative healthcare settings. CSHP supports its members through advocacy, education, information sharing, promotion of best practices and facilitation of research and recognition of excellence.

There are several areas that we feel the involvement of our organization would assist the Ministry as well as other stakeholders in combating the opioid crisis. In particular, we feel CSHP-OB could offer expert information on how best to limit opportunities for opioid diversion within hospital systems in Ontario. Further, CSHP-OB could play a role in dissemination of best practices and the creation of resources to support hospitals in Ontario.

We understand that an Opioid Emergency Task Force will be created in the immediate future. We would welcome the opportunity to serve on this task force or support the work of this group.

We look forward to working together to improve the opioid crisis and continue to make your vision of Patients First a reality everywhere across the Province.

Sincerely,

Ryan Itterman
President, Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists – Ontario Branch

c.c. Katie Heelis, Policy Lead, Office of the Minister, Ministry of Health and Long Term Care