

Ministry of Health

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August 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Stéphane Perrault, Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

RE: Chief Medical Officer of Health's recommendations on using schools in Ontario for election purposes

Dear Mr. Perrault,

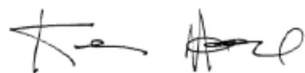
Over the past year the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) has been working with Elections Canada (EC) to provide advice for election processes and as a point of contact across other ministries (e.g., Ministry of Seniors and Accessibility and Ministry of Long-Term Care).

With respect to EC's inquiry of using schools for election-related purposes, such as polling stations, I recommend that only schools that meet the following conditions be considered by school boards and EC for EC to establish polling stations in schools, particularly in elementary schools:

- Direct path to location of polling station;
- There must be separate entrance(s) and exit(s); and
- Must be able to keep students (including children in licensed child care centres co-located in schools) and staff separate from the public.

I look forward to continued dialogue and planning.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kieran Moore, MD, CCFP(EM), FCFP, MPH, DTM&H, FRCPC
Chief Medical Officer of Health, Public Health
Ontario Ministry of Health

c: Helen Angus, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Health
Nancy Naylor, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education
Greg Essensa, Chief Electoral Officer, Elections Ontario