

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

Office of the Minister

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**Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée**

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OCT 11 2005

Health Agenda

Mr. Bill Fisch
Chair

Regional Municipality of York Newmarket Health Centre
194 Eagle Street
Newmarket ON L3Y 1J6

Dear Mr. Fisch:

High quality, responsive community-based care is a centrepiece of our government's plan to improve health care. To support this priority, we have undertaken the largest expansion of community-based health care in Ontario's history, so that tens of thousands more Ontarians can receive the care they need, closer to home.

Our plan also involves a major emphasis on healthy living and illness prevention to keep people well in the first place. A strong community sector is essential to delivering effective preventative initiatives.

As announced in the budget, we are investing an additional \$39 million to support end-of-life care services including home care services, volunteer hospice visiting services, residential hospices and other related community support services.

In addition to any other enhanced funding you are receiving this fiscal year, your organization's share of the new base funding in 2005/06 is \$22,000.

In the coming weeks, you will receive further correspondence from the Assistant Deputy Minister, Community Health Division, outlining the details of this new funding including the accountability requirements. Where applicable, funding increases are also contingent upon approval and execution of your 2005/06 accountability agreement. Your increased cash flow will be initiated as soon as possible and your final cash flow will subsequently be adjusted based on your 2005/06 sign-back of your accountability agreement.

I would like to convey my sincere appreciation for the contributions all members of your organization make every day to improve the health of Ontarians.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "George Smitherman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "George" and last name "Smitherman" clearly distinguishable.

George Smitherman
Minister

c: Julia Munro, MPP, York North
Frank Klees, MPP, Oak Ridges
Mario G. Racco, MPP, Thornhill
Hon. Greg Sorbara, MPP, Vaughan-King-Aurora
Tony Wong, MPP, Markham
Shawn Turner, Administrator/Director of Long Term Care