



July 13, 2009

The Honourable Dalton McGuinty
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier McGuinty:

Subject: Funding for the Expansion of the CINOT Dental Program to Extend Coverage up to 17 Years of Age

At the June 18, 2009 Board of Health Meeting for the Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit the following motion was passed:

That: The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Board of Health request that the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion continue to fund the CINOT Expansion dental program at 100% in 2010 in order to determine more accurate and reliable budget figures for the program before any further costs are downloaded to Health Units,

And That: A copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Margaret Best, Minister of Health Promotion; Ontario Boards of Health; and Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies.

We applaud the Ministry of Health Promotion for extending CINOT to provide these essential services. It is important to note however that when new programs are introduced, or programs are modified, it takes time for the public and professionals to become aware of and use these programs. There is a concern that the Ministry of Health Promotion will make their funding allocations based on data that do not truly reflect the costs of operating the expanded programs, and that Health Units will have difficulty staying within budget.

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Continued 100% funding through 2010 will provide more accurate and consistent budget figures for the program, and will therefore ensure sustainability.

We look forward to your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,

THE CORPORATION OF THE LEEDS, GRENVILLE
AND LANARK DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

Original Signed

(Mr.) Jack Butt
Chair of the Board

JB/hb

c: The Honourable Margaret Best, Minister of Health Promotion
Ontario Boards of Health
Linda Stewart, Executive Director, Association of Local Public Health Agencies