

February 17, 2006

The Honourable Mary Anne Chambers
Minister of Children and Youth Services
14th Floor, 56 Wellesley St. W.
Toronto ON M5S 2S3

Dear Minister Chambers:

Re: The addition of dental care services within the Best Start Program

At the meeting of the Board of Health of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit on December 15, 2005, a resolution was passed that “The Board request that the Ministry of Children and Youth Services consider including a dental care component within the provincial Best Start program to ensure healthy oral beginnings for young children.”

This resolution was passed following a presentation provided to the Board on the work carried out by the health unit to improve access to dental care for low-income families. Along with a public education campaign and a forum to increase awareness of the issue, a community coalition has been initiated to address the ‘access to care’ issue.

The resolution from the Board of Health of the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit and a background paper are attached.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF HEALTH FOR THE HALIBURTON, KAWARTHA
KAWARTHA, PINE RIDGE DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT

A. Lynn Noseworthy, MD, MHSc, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

cc: Dr. Sheela Basrur, Assistant Deputy Minister
The Hon. George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long Term Care
All Ontario Public Health Units