

Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 3:31 PM

To: minister.mecp@ontario.ca; MPPLiaison.MOH@Ontario.ca

Subject: FW: Letter from WDGPB Board Chair George Bridge to Minister of Environment

The Hon. Andrea Khanjin

Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks

Dear Minister,

I am writing regarding the attached letter that you may have already received from George Bridge, Chair, Board of Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, about continued funding for provincial wastewater surveillance.

In his letter Mr. Bridge underscores the Board's support to maintain the existing surveillance and wastewater sampling system, which is an exemplary system that currently covers more than 60% of Ontario's population.

The Board also emphasizes the importance of this program as it allows public health units the ability to accurately predict and understand disease conditions that impact health within their region. Mr. Bridge's letter also points out that local wastewater sampling has become a vital tool to understand risk and is a frequently used data source for Public Health, local elected officials, researchers, the press, and the public at large, to help residents make informed decisions to ensure that their families are healthy and safe.

I wanted to bring this to your personal attention, and I know that the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Board wants to work in collaboration with you and your staff to find options to continue this essential program.

Thank you for your considering the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Board's request on this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ted Arnott, MPP

Wellington-Halton Hills