



LONDON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

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June 18, 2020

To: The Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario

Cc: The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General of Ontario

Re: Covid-19 Information Sharing Guideline

On behalf of the London Police Services Board, we are writing to express our concern at O Reg 120/20 ordering health authorities to share personal health information about COVID-19 status information of individuals to police services. Although we have complied with directives and established a policy related to this order as part of our role, we remain distressed with the implications of your decision on community safety and well-being.

Our primary concern is that there are members of our community who will be disproportionately impacted by this order in a negative way. For example, individuals who are Black, Indigenous, and people of colour, as well as sex workers. These communities have longstanding mistrust with both the health and policing sectors. We are concerned that fear of disclosure could limit help-seeking for individuals from these communities who suspect that they may have symptoms of COVID-19.

We would ask that your government take heed to these concerns and reconsider whether the full disclosure of personal health information is truly necessary. For example, how else can we ensure that our front line police service members are adequately protected? We would support full access to appropriate personal protective equipment, and better coordination between police services and public health units as an alternative to sharing highly sensitive personal health information.

Dr. Javeed Sukhera, Chair

London Police Services Board

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