

Premier Doug Ford
Premier's Office
Room 281 Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
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Hon. Christine Elliott,
Minister of Health Ministry of Health
5th Floor 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON
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October 23, 2020

Premier Ford and Deputy Premier Elliott,

I am writing to you to request that you consider a targeted approach on specific sectors that are seeing increased infection rates instead of ordering the full closure of an entire municipality or region. The public and business will accept your decision if you provide conclusive data for the targeted approach rather than a blanket approach that unfairly punishes small businesses.

Medical Officers of Health across Ontario already have the authority to respond to increased infection rates by making specific recommendations and public health restrictions, similar to the restrictions currently in place in Toronto, York Region, Peel Region and Ottawa. For example, some municipalities in Ontario, such as ours, have proactively limited team sports to training only in order to address increased infections in sports settings.

Some businesses and sectors that have been following public health guidelines throughout the pandemic have seen no outbreaks and minimal or even no infections; they should not be punished under a blanket shutdown order. Restaurant and small business owners across Ontario have been some of the hardest hit during this pandemic and those that have survived need our support more than ever before.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Mayor