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MEMORANDUM TO: Health System Organizations and Providers**SUBJECT: Update on COVID-19 Preparations and Actions**

In follow-up to our last communication, we are pleased to share additional updates from the provincial Health Command Table on key actions that are being taken to address COVID-19:

- **Ongoing vigilance in identifying and addressing new cases, including actively monitoring emerging trends in the spread of COVID-19** as more public health regions move to stage 2 of reopening. At this time, nearly all public health regions have progressed to Stage 2, with only one remaining to transition.
 - We are working with local public health and health system partners to detect and respond to outbreaks in the Windsor-Essex region through enhanced testing on farms and proactive targeted testing of farm workers.
- **Continuing to support timely and effective interventions in response to outbreaks occurring in congregate settings**, including long-term care homes.
 - We continue to work with long-term care homes and local health system partners to identify and contain outbreaks early through sustained testing efforts in homes, including universal staff testing.
 - We continue work to facilitate the movement of patients from hospitals to long-term care homes where needed and support homes to safely implement [guidance for resuming visits in long-term care homes](#) so that residents can be reconnected with their families.
- **Actively reviewing modelling data and information in preparation for the Fall** to understand how our current public health measures, testing and case and contact management strategies, and health system capacity planning may need to be adjusted.
 - Last week, the government released its [strategy to enhance case and contact management](#) by launching a new exposure-notification app, implementing a new provincial technology system and doubling staffing capacity to support local public health units. We continue implementing key elements of this strategy to ensure we are prepared for the Fall.

We thank you for your continued work to respond to the pandemic and implement a phased recovery.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Helen Angus
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Health

Dr. David Williams
Chief Medical Officer of Health
Ministry of Health

Matthew Anderson
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