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Good afternoon,

As I'm sure you're aware, yesterday the Ontario government released [their five-point plan](#) to address the complex issues facing our health system. I wanted to provide you with steps the College is taking to help address these issues.

On August 4th, the CPSO was asked by the Ministry of Health to prepare a report outlining opportunities to improve physician supply within the province. Yesterday morning, we submitted our response which outlined our initial assessment of the options available to address the systemic challenges facing physician supply both immediately and in the long-term. Shortly after submitting the letter we had a very productive meeting with Sylvia Jones, our new Minister of Health.

While collaboration across the system will be required to truly address the health system challenges, we identified opportunities to license physicians more flexibly and nimbly and other options that would require legislative amendments.

One immediately actionable option we presented that could result in a rapid injection of resources into the system was to call on recently retired physicians – both those who have an active license but have wound down their practice and those who have recently given up their license. To facilitate uptake, CPSO will waive application fees and adopt a flexible approach to re-entry requirements.

If you are recently retired and interested in returning to the physician workforce in some capacity to help address the physician shortage, I ask that you please reach out to Samantha Tulipano, Director of Registration and Membership Services at stulipano@cpso.on.ca or 1-800-268-7096 ext 709.

We are committed to promptly responding to all interested physicians. I am committed to keeping you informed of our progress as we work through these challenges with government and our health system partners. I am aware of how challenging it is to provide care in the current health system and I commend you for your ongoing dedication.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Nancy'.

Nancy Whitmore, MD, FRCSC, MBA
Registrar and Chief Executive Officer



College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario is the licensing and regulatory body governing the practice of medicine in Ontario. The College is responsible for setting and maintaining standards, licensing physicians, investigating complaints about physicians on behalf of the public, and disciplining doctors found to have committed act(s) of professional misconduct. For more information please visit the [CPSO website](#).

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