



April 26, 2023

Hon. Laurie Scott
Minister of Infrastructure
5th Floor, 777 Bay Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2J3

Hon. Sylvia Jones
Minister of Health
5th Floor, 777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Dear Minister Jones, and Minister Scott,

On behalf of our thousands of members in the region, and indeed all the citizens of Haliburton, we are writing to request your intervention into the recent decision by Haliburton Highlands Health Services to close the Emergency department in Minden.

We ask that you intervene to, at a minimum, allow for a more robust discussion with local citizens and elected officials about how appropriate emergency services will be provided in Haliburton County.

This closure, and the additional 20-30 minute travel time it entails for residents in the Minden area, puts lives at risk and unnecessarily compromises the health and safety of residents, both seasonal and permanent.

The short timing of this closure, set to take place June 1, 2023, was without adequate discussion with local officials and the public who rely on HHHS's important services. Surely an important foundational community service such as this deserves the input from those most directly affected by it.

We look forward to your prompt reply, and your involvement in establishing a more thoughtful path forward, starting with the delay of this closure.

Regards,

Terry Rees, Executive Director
On behalf of The Federation of Ontario Cottagers' Associations
#201 – 159 King Street
Peterborough, ON K9J2R8
trees@foca.on.ca 705-749-3622

cc. Premier Doug Ford doug.fordco@pc.ola.org
Bob Carter, Mayor, Minden Hills bcarter@mindenhills.ca