



April 27, 2020

Honourable, Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario,
Legislative Building, Queen's Park,
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Re: MRTs & DMSs absent from pandemic pay

Dear Premier Ford:

On behalf of the Members of the Ontario Association of Medical Radiation Sciences (OAMRS), we thank you for your ongoing leadership and efforts to support healthcare workers through this unprecedented time.

We thank you for your government's decision to support front-line healthcare workers in Ontario with temporary pandemic pay. This is very meaningful to all front-line care providers as not only does it support them in their continued efforts, it recognizes their vital contributions to the system and the risks they are taking to keep all of us safe. In your news release issued over the weekend, it was noted that Medical Radiation Technologists (MRTs) and Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (DMSs) were absent from the list of approved front-line workers to receive the pandemic pay. We are hoping this was a mistake or an oversight. Our Members are proud to be supporting our population on the front-line alongside all of our other healthcare and support professionals but to not see their name listed has been taken very disparagingly. They feel undervalued, discouraged and insulted.

The OAMRS represents the interests of all the Medical Radiation Practitioners in Ontario in the disciplines of radiography, nuclear medicine, magnetic resonance imaging, radiation therapy, and diagnostic ultrasound. MRTs and DMSs are regulated in Ontario by the College of Medical Radiation and Imaging Technologists of Ontario (CMRITO) under the Regulated Health Professions Act. MRTs and DMSs provide vital diagnostic services such as x-rays, ultrasounds, CTs, MRIs, interventional and radiation therapy procedures to thousands of Ontarians every day. These procedures may be performed in dedicated suites in our hospitals, at the bedside, portably in the emergency or Intensive Care Units (ICUs) and inside long-term care facilities. Our Members are very much front-line in the fight against COVID-19 and have a

similar level of contact that nurses would have while in our care. Our Members are risking their lives every day as they perform vital diagnostic and therapeutic procedures on infected or suspected COVID-19 patients. These procedures are used every day to diagnose, monitor and treat infected patients.

If this decision not to include MRTs and DMSs in the temporary pandemic pay was an oversight, please confirm that they are in fact included. If it was decided not to include MRTs and DMSs, I urge you to reconsider your decision and advise accordingly.

If you would like to speak to me directly on this matter, please reach me at the number or email below.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greg Toffner'.

Greg Toffner MHS, BSc, RTR
President and CEO
toffnerg@oamrs.org
905-645-4349

Cc: Amanda Johnston, Chair of the Board, OAMRS
Linda Gough, CEO & Registrar, CMRITO
Jennifer Meher, President OARM