

Solicitor General

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132-2019-14
By e-mail

April 29, 2019

His Worship Jeff Lehman
Mayor
The Corporation of the City of Barrie
PO Box 400
Barrie ON L4M 4T5
officeofthemayor@barrie.ca

Dear Mayor Lehman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the opioid overdose crisis in Canada, and for informing me of the Simcoe Muskoka Opioid Strategy and the Barrie City Council resolution on this matter.

The public safety and well-being of Ontarians is of paramount importance to our government. We are committed to working with our police services, municipalities and community partners to find solutions to address the opioid crisis. As a first step, we have enabled police officers to carry and administer naloxone in response to opioid overdoses like other first responders. The ministry is also committed to working with our policing partners to combat the illicit drug supply, production and distribution by ensuring police services have the necessary resources and tools to best serve their communities.

In addition, through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, our government has committed to investing \$3.8 billion to implement a comprehensive and connected mental health and addictions strategy. Our government is committed to ensuring that each dollar goes directly to services that will make a significant difference to patients. Our funding will go toward direct, front-line care, reduced wait times and improved access to mental health services for Ontarians.

Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Jones'.

Sylvia Jones
Solicitor General

c: The Honourable Christine Elliott
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care