

April 7, 2021

Dear Dr. Homer Tien,

On behalf of the [Ontario Vaccination Support Council \(OVSC\)](#), we would like congratulate you on your new appointment as Chair of Ontario's COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. Your leadership and expertise will be vital in the province's efforts to execute a timely and efficient vaccination program in the weeks and months ahead.

As you know, throughout the pandemic, Ontario's public and private sectors have remained steadfast in its commitment to support the province in the fight against COVID-19. Whether it was helping source personal protective equipment for frontline health care workers or, more recently, setting up mass immunization hubs to meet the need for community vaccination, organizations have demonstrated tremendous leadership by diverting critical resources during this challenging time.

Recognizing the vital role that organizations can play in supporting Ontario's historic COVID-19 vaccination efforts, the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC) launched the Ontario Vaccination Support Council on January 19. The Council is co-chaired by James Scongack, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs & Operational Services at Bruce Power and Garrick Tiplady, the Managing Director of Facebook Canada. The Council leverages over 250 businesses, universities, colleges, associations, and labour unions from across the province to provide support for Ontario's COVID-19 vaccination efforts with the ultimate goal of ending the pandemic.

To date, the Council's work includes:

- Two-way communication between the private sector and public health units so that the organizations, universities, colleges, associations and labour unions can volunteer time or resources to the province's vaccination efforts.
- Resources to the general public by providing links to key public health information and resources.
- A [consolidated directory of capabilities and services](#) within Ontario's business community and Ontario Chamber Network that could be utilized by government, hospitals and public health in the distribution of vaccinations.
- Shared policies, best practices and approaches with government to ensure the maximum participation of employers and their employees in vaccination efforts with a specific focus on being proactive and removing barriers.
- Assisting with communications and public awareness by bolstering the government's public education campaign specifically aimed at addressing vaccine hesitancy, literacy, and awareness. Beyond this, Ontario's business community also can play a role in disseminating tailored communications to employees to ensure maximum participation in vaccination efforts.

As we move towards the end of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic by vaccinating as many Ontarians as possible, we realize how much faster it can be accomplished with a public-private partnership. With that, we would like to invite you to join us at an upcoming meeting with the Ontario Vaccination Support Council. We would be pleased to work with your office to help facilitate your attendance.

The OVSC stands ready to support your Task Force and help drive economic recovery. We look forward to your participation at a future Council meeting as well as working with you in this critical endeavour.

Regards,



Rocco Rossi
President & CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce



James Scongack
Co-Chair, Ontario Vaccination Support Council
Executive Vice-President, Corporate Affairs & Operational Services, Bruce Power



Garrick Tiplady
Co-Chair, Ontario Vaccination Support Council
Managing Director, Facebook Canada

CC:

Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
Hon. Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health
Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General and Commissioner, Board of Internal Economy
Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health