Honourable First Name Last Name

Title

Office Address

City, Province, Postal Code

Via email: Email Address

Dear Minister Last Name,

I am writing today as your constituent who resides in City, Ontario, and as a practicing Physician Assistant (PA) at Location. I am seeking an opportunity to meet with you to discuss how PAs can play a vital role in addressing the pressing healthcare challenges in our province, such as reducing wait times, improving patient access to care, and alleviating burden on physicians.

**PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS (PAs) IN PRIMARY CARE**

PAs are physician extenders who practice medicine in all specialties. In primary care, PAs make services more accessible, and help physicians grow their roster while increasing the volume and scope of services they provide. **Adding one PA to a site can increase the roster by at least 500 patients.** Please [click here](chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefindmkaj/https:/capa-acam.ca/_uploads/67db2b0f04379.pdf) to learn more about PAs.

**MY STORY**

I pursued a career as a PA because [Share Your Journey: what inspired you to become a PA, your background, and your commitment to patient care]. Currently, I am working at [Describe Your Current Work: role, specialty, and key responsibilities]. My role as a PA has allowed me to [Explain Your Impact: provide examples of how your work directly improves patient outcomes, access to care, or reduces wait times]. I am passionate about the care I provide and the positive difference it makes in my community.

**THE ISSUE**

Despite regulation, which came into effect 1 April 2025, PAs still face many barriers to success in Ontario. At the top of the list are PAs employed in primary care. They are grossly underpaid when compared to their colleagues working in other settings, are among the lowest paid PAs in North America and are not compensated in the same way as others doing the same work.

I feel strongly that we should be working to get more PAs working in primary care. By making it more attractive for PAs to practice here, we will be taking significant steps to encourage doctors to practice in teams, lessening the burden on other parts of the health system and will free up doctors to take on more patients.

**PA PRIORITIES**

As your constituent, I would appreciate the opportunity to share more about the impact PAs have on patient care and discuss key priorities that our province must address to expand PAs into our healthcare system:

# **Education**: Ontario only trains 106 PAs a year. We need to be training significantly more. Increasing the number of training spots, as well as the creation of new PA programs will help meet the pressing demands of the healthcare system. PAs aren’t a replacement for physicians; however, they do help physicians manage more patients and improve outcomes. It also costs significantly less to train a PA and takes only two years.

**Funding Models:** Developing a sustainable funding model would allow physicians and healthcare institutions to hire PAs more easily. This in turn would improve patient access, reduce wait times, and address workforce shortages, ultimately leading to cost savings for the healthcare system.

The Conference Board of Canada recently unveiled a report, [Unlocking Potential: Exploring Physician Assistant Funding Models and Impact for Three Practice Settings](https://www.conferenceboard.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/unlocking-potential_oct2023.pdf), that highlights the important role that PAs are playing in health systems across Canada, and calls for governments to explore a new funding model that would make it easier for hospitals, primary care teams and physicians to employ PAs allowing for reduced wait times and better access to physicians.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to meeting with you to discuss how Ontario can benefit from the full potential of PAs to improve healthcare in the province. Please contact me at Email Address or Phone Number to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Signature

Your Name, CCPA

Location

Email Address | Phone Number