

Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

Constituency Offices:

☐ 81 Front Street West
Strathroy, ON N7G 1X6

Tel. (519) 245-8696
Fax (519) 245-8697

☐ 360 James Street
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 2N5

Tel. (519) 627-1015
Fax (519) 627-7174

Queen's Park Office:

☐ Rm. 202 NW, Legislative Bldg.
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8

Tel. (416) 325-3362
Fax (416) 325-3275

October 17, 2016.

Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins
Minister of Health and Long-Term Care
10th Floor, Hepburn Block
80 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Hoskins,

I am writing to you regarding the implementation of federal legislation Bill C-14, which legalized medical assistance in dying across Canada. While this legislation submits that health care professionals should not be compelled to provide medical aid in dying if they have conscience objections, Ontario has contravened this directive.

As you know, the effective referral protocol for medical aid in dying adopted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario may compel health care professionals to choose between their profession and their faith, conscience, or commitment to the Hippocratic Oath. I stand with the many health care professionals who believe the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, precedent from the Supreme Court, and the very language of Bill C-14 should protect their right to refrain from participation in euthanasia.

Minister, this effective referral protocol is globally unprecedented. There are viable alternatives for the provision of effective access that would allow these health care professionals to continue to practice with ethical integrity.

As the Minister for Health and Long-Term Care you have an opportunity to advocate for a collaborative process that respects patients' wishes while not infringing on freedom of conscience. I strongly encourage you to consider the concerns of these health care professionals by acting to protect the integrity of our health care system and the rights of Ontario citizens.

Sincerely,



Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex