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Hon. Christine Elliott
Minister of Health
Legislative Assembly of Ontario
Queen's Park

May 4, 2020

Dear Minister Elliott,

Thank you for your continued leadership of Ontario's health system through the COVID-19 pandemic.

A number of my constituents who are suffering from non-COVID related health conditions have reached out asking when their vital surgeries and procedures will be rescheduled.

They support the decision to free up hospital beds for the anticipated influx of COVID-19 patients, but their conditions are declining and many of them are worried and desperate for answers.

According to the Financial Accountability Officer's estimates, nearly 65,000 people have had their hospital procedures postponed, and these include life-saving cardiac and cancer surgeries.

While the province announced that hospitals could begin rescheduling these surgeries in Stage 1 of reopening, no other details were provided.

On behalf of all Ontarians whose health depends on it, I am asking you to share the plan for hospitals to continue accepting new COVID-19 patients without any further delay to essential surgeries.

Cancer, heart disease, and other illnesses will not wait for COVID-19 to subside before claiming lives. Please give people clarity about when their pain and illnesses will be treated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Schreiner".

Mike Schreiner
MPP, Guelph