



Elgin St. Thomas Site

Administrative Office
1230 Talbot Street
St. Thomas, ON
N5P 1G9

Woodstock Site

410 Buller Street
Woodstock, ON
N4S 4N2

June 15, 2022

Mr. Michael Duben, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Lynn Buchner, Director of Corporate Services
County of Oxford
21 Reeve Street
Woodstock, ON N4S 7Y3

Dear Michael and Lynn,

This letter is being sent to you to make you aware of SWPH's 2022 cashflow concerns related to Covid-19 expenditures.

SWPH has recently received its 2022 funding letter from the Ministry of Health which is good news given it arrived earlier than in most years. Unfortunately, SWPH received Ministry of Health approval for only half of the Covid-19 funding requested for Covid-19 response work including vaccination efforts (approximately \$7,000,000 unfunded). To our knowledge, this was the case for all health units. Instead, the Ministry has indicated we can apply for additional funding through the Ministry's in-year extraordinary expenditures reimbursement process. Using this process, we may end up with a significant delay in receiving the actual approval and cashflow from the Ministry resulting in cash flow concerns at the health unit level.

To manage this concern, staff have continued to monitor cash flow and discuss projections with the Finance and Facilities Committee. Also, like last year, SWPH has once again increased its line of credit from \$800,000 to the maximum of \$3,000,000 for the balance of 2022.

Due to the potential cashflow situation, the Board of Health has requested that we inform you of the potential need to levy each of the obligated municipalities proportionately of a total of \$4,000,000. The Line of Credit and this additional Levy will ensure that SWPH's financial obligations are met bridging the gap between now and the date the Ministry of Health reimburses SWPH for all its Covid-19 expenditures. Given it is a municipal election year, the Board flagged the need to advise you now so that any municipal council decisions needed could be made before the fall, in advance of an additional levy notification.

The County of Oxford's portion of this levy is \$2,219,015. The Board determined that these funds will be returned to the County upon receipt of the Ministry of Health funding. The Board and staff recognize an additional levy is the last resort. At this time, we are not requesting you forward the funds, but we are making you aware that in the event of an unacceptable cash flow situation, SWPH will be requesting the above stated amount.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Larry Martin
Chair, Board of Health
Southwestern Public Health



Cynthia St. John
Chief Executive Officer
Southwestern Public Health

copy: Board of Health members, SWPH
Monica Nusink, Director of Finance, SWPH