

For Immediate Release
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VETERAN QUEEN'S PARK STAFFER APPOINTED SMITHERMAN'S CHIEF OF STAFF

TORONTO - Ontario Health and Long-Term Care Minister George Smitherman today announced the appointment of Karli Farrow as his Chief of Staff effective September 5, 2006.

Farrow is the Manager of the Office of the President and Vice-Chancellor at the University of Western Ontario, a position she has held since November 2005. In her current role, she is responsible for providing operational and administrative lead for the office in addition to providing advice and support to the President and Vice-Presidents regarding strategic policy and planning for the university.

Prior to her joining the university, Farrow was Director of Policy and Research in the Office of Premier Dalton McGuinty where, in addition to managing a team of policy advisors, she provided advice on health policy to the Premier and senior staff.

From December 2000 to October 2003, she held various positions at Queen's Park including health policy advisor to the Leader of the Official Opposition and executive assistant to the Opposition House Leader. Farrow is a graduate of the University of Guelph where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree.

Farrow brings to her new role a solid track record in public sector leadership and extensive experience in stakeholder relations. Her wealth of knowledge in health policy was enriched by the lead role she played in the development of the Ontario Liberal Party's election 2003 health platform.

Until Farrow's arrival in September, Smitherman's Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs, Ken Chan, will be providing leadership to the office during this time of transition as Acting Chief of Staff.

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