



March 27, 2020

The Honourable Patty Hajdu
Minister of Health
70 Colombine Driveway
Brooke Claxton Building
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9

Dear Minister Hajdu,

On behalf of Research Canada: An Alliance for Health Discovery, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for your efforts and those of the Government of Canada in responding decisively to the global COVID-19 pandemic on the basis of scientific evidence and sound public health opinion.

As a national, multi-stakeholder alliance, our role is to help the Government of Canada understand the critical role that our Members across the health research and health innovation ecosystem – which include hospitals, academic health science centres, universities, colleges, private industry and the voluntary sector – play in a crisis like this and to encourage non-partisan collaboration among political parties. **In particular, our Members have substantial scientific, research and laboratory capacity – among other capabilities and resources – and bring talent, infrastructure and significant expertise to help address this crisis that is likely being underexploited. We want to ensure that you are aware that our Members are prepared to help and keen to engage in dialogue with your office and the Government of Canada.**

Our sector is prepared to assist the Government of Canada during this difficult time to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on the health and wellbeing of Canadians. Research Canada remains committed to bringing the best information about health research and innovation to the Canadian public, media and Government, and we look forward to working with you and your Government to help facilitate the assistance of our Members to respond effectively to this crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. McMaster".

Robert McMaster, PhD
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety".

Deborah Gordon-El-Bihbety
President and CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Goldstein".

Rose Goldstein, MD, FRCPC
Vice-Chair

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ryan Wiley".

Ryan Wiley, PhD
Policy Advisor and Chair,
Policy Engagement Committee