

**Ministry of Health**

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May 30, 2024

Colin Best  
President and Councillor for the Region of Halton  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
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Dear Mr. Best:

I wanted to take a moment to address a concern raised by some municipalities arising from the Auditor General's recommendations about Ontario's public health laboratories.

There are thousands of residents across rural Ontario that get their well water tested. Growing up, I have relied on well water and know the importance of testing.

As I have said in the legislature multiple times, we have not made any changes to the testing of private drinking water samples. These services continue to be performed at Public Health Ontario's laboratory sites, free of charge. That will not change.

The Ministry of Health and Public Health Ontario will continue to work together to strengthen the provincial public health laboratory network.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Jones  
Deputy Premier and Minister of Health