

THE MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO Suite 500, 970 Lawrence Avenue West Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B6
Tel 416-222-8820 toll-free 1-877-632-6682
e-mail info@meao.ca www.meao.ca

e-mail <u>info@meao.ca</u> <u>www.meao.ca</u> charitable reg. number 892267568RR0001

MEAO - an organization representing and supporting the medical conditions of Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS), Fibromyalgia (FM) and Environmental Sensitivities/Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (ES/MCS)

MEAO'S NEWSFLASH

October, 2021

Dear Members and Friends of MEAO:

This is an important update from the Ontario Ministry of Health pertaining to the Action Plan report of Dr. Brian Schwartz, Vice-President of Public Health Ontario (PHO), regarding the recommendations of the Task Force on Environmental Health (TFEH).

You'll recall that on May 12th, 2021 MEAO held its May 12th awareness event via webinar and Dr. Brian Schwartz was the keynote speaker, with Bill Manson, Strategic Advisor, Environmental Health. At that time, Dr. Schwartz presented his slide deck entitled "PHO Update for MEAO Awareness Day". This was a draft and Dr. Schwartz advised that he hoped to have the final version submitted to the Minister in June/July.

We sent a copy of Dr. Schwartz's slide deck toall of you with our Newsletter of June, 2021.

MEAO held its AGM at the end of September and we asked the Ministry of Health for a statement giving an update regarding Dr. Schwartz's report. The Ministry of Health forwarded MEAO the following statement at the end of September:

The Ministry of Health has reviewed the PHO recommendations and is currently exploring options for implementation that will directly benefit Ontarians.

We remain committed to working with MEAO and health partners across the province to better support individuals affected by Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Fibromyalgia and Environmental Sensitivities/Multiple Chemical Sensitivity, and acknowledge the impact of these illnesses on Ontarians.

The Ministry has advised that they will keep us updated as the statement says, and as soon as we have more information, we'll forward it to you.

MEAO's NEW ADDRESS: Please make a note of MEAO's new address as shown at the top of this newsflash: Suite 500, 970 Lawrence Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M6A 3B6.

The MEAO Board sends best wishes to you all. Please stay safe and healthy.

Denise Magi President, The Myalgic Encephalomyelitis Association of Ontario (MEAO) On behalf of the Board of Directors of MEAO