

Hon. Charles Sousa
Government of Ontario
c/o Budget Secretariat
Frost Building North, 3rd Floor
95 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z1

February 8, 2018

Dear Minister Sousa,

Epilepsy Ontario is the voice of epilepsy in the province. Since 1956, we have been serving the province as a registered health charity incorporated under the statutes of Ontario as a non-profit and non-governmental organization. We aim to raise public awareness and improve education.

Epilepsy affects over 90,000 people in Ontario, yet the medical system does not provide comprehensive epilepsy education or community support. This need is filled by Community Epilepsy Agencies across the province.

Research conducted as part of the Clinic To Community Epilepsy education program has demonstrated the capacity to improve quality of life, reduce unnecessary medical system usage, address the disproportionately high rate of mental illness amongst people living with epilepsy, and meet provincial policy goals, through effective health coaching programs. Community Epilepsy Agencies require government support to continue providing epilepsy education and support across the province.

The following pre-budget submission was developed with input from Community Epilepsy Agencies across the province. It will help bring epilepsy education in Ontario in-line with other neurological conditions and support the 90,000 people living with epilepsy, and their families, to live well in the community.

I hope you will give this submission due consideration and am happy to address any questions or concerns you might have.

Sincerely,



Paul Raymond
Executive Director,
Epilepsy Ontario

CC: Hon. Eric Hoskins, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care