



October 18, 2021

Karli Farrow
President & CEO
Trillium Health Partners
2200 Eglinton Avenue West
Mississauga, ON L5M 2N1

Dear Ms. Farrow,

I am writing to follow-up on the letter sent to me by Ms. Michelle Di Emanuele President & CEO Trillium Health Partners dated January 2, 2020 (enclosed). At that time Ms. Di Emanuele and a team of neurologists at THP were considering a community-based clinic that would better integrate existing services and interdisciplinary care for people affected by Parkinson's disease. This approach is supported by the Ministry of Health and the Health Minister herself as the most cost-effective manner to deliver health services.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, health care priorities changed and the project had to be deferred. Now that we are starting to see our way out of the crisis, I would like to advocate for a renewal of the initiative at Credit Valley Hospital – the establishment of a specialized interdisciplinary Parkinson's Disease Clinic. As mentioned in earlier correspondence on this subject, the clinic would include nurses, social workers, occupational and physio therapists, speech-language pathologists and other allied health care professionals trained in Parkinson's disease.

This potential new care initiative would benefit the approximately 2,500 people with Parkinson's in the Mississauga area. The prevalence of Parkinson's and related dementia has increased substantially over the last ten year. Furthermore, with the rapidly ageing population, the need for neurological care will grow exponentially. Movement disorder specialists including Credit Valley Hospital's own Dr. Philippe Rizek recognize this situation. In addition, correspondence sent to THP by Parkinson Canada over the past two years emphasize this pressing outlook.

As I witness my wife and our friends in our Mississauga Parkinson's Disease Support Group struggle with this debilitating disease, it is my strong belief that Mississauga needs a multidisciplinary clinic comparable to those in other major Ontario cities such as Toronto.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Bruno Bellissimo, P. Eng.
Volunteer Lead Facilitator, Mississauga Parkinson Canada Support Group

Enclosed

Cc.

Debra Carson, Executive VP Patient Care Services
Karen Conway, Program Director Neurosciences & Musculoskeletal
Dr. Dante Morra, Chief of Staff and President THP Solutions
Dr. Dana Wilson, Chief and Medical Director Neurosciences & Musculoskeletal
Dr. Philippe Rizek, Neurology