
Queen's Health Outreach

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Queen's Health Outreach
Registered Charitable Organization #889124798
P.O. Box 2045
Kingston, ON, Canada
K7L 5J8

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PUBLIC STATEMENT

RE: COVID-19 OUTBREAK & QHO INITIATIVES

It is with immeasurable sadness that we must announce the cancellation of all QHO-related travel plans this spring. This includes our initiatives in Belize, Guyana, and Northern Canada as well as our two pilot initiatives in Fort Simpson and Ivujivik. Due to the closure of Kingston public schools until the end of the Queen's academic term we must also announce an early conclusion to the 2019-2020 Kingston Initiative. As you are well aware, the situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly evolving and becoming increasingly unpredictable. We have been closely monitoring travel advisories from provincial, territorial, and federal governments and feel it is necessary to make this decision to cancel well in advance of our intended departure dates. As an organization which values the opinions of scientists and experts in the field of public health, we understand our duty to abide by these advisories and to avoid any actions which would contribute to this growing crisis.

We would like to thank our generous donors and sponsors for their support throughout the year. As our travelling initiatives will no longer be taking place this Spring, much of our fundraising is no longer required. We will be in contact with all donors within the coming days to reallocate these funds. Should you choose to retract your donation, we will have a cheque or e-transfer option available. Any remaining funds will be graciously redirected to the 2020-2021 QHO initiatives.

We would like to also thank every member of our team for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. As Co-Directors, it has been an absolute pleasure to witness. The Kingston Initiative had a very successful year facilitating health discussions in both our new and long-time partner classrooms and community groups. To our executive team, thank you for the countless hours you have put into helping the organization run smoothly behind the scenes and for your efforts to improve the sustainability of the work we do. Although we will not be able to implement many of the improvements we have strived to make to the organization this spring, we have confidence that QHO will continue to grow and evolve in the years to come. Lastly, we want to thank every single person we have worked alongside in our four years with QHO for inspiring us each and every day to do better.

Sincerely,



Geena Denno & Sydney Van Sickle
General Co-Directors 2019-2020