



Dear Colleagues,

We are writing to you today to enlist your urgent support. As you are aware, we are at a critical point in the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada. As part of our efforts to flatten the curve and respond to COVID-19, we are seeking help from across the country and we believe your members would be well placed to assist.

There is an urgent need for people to help augment capacity at provincial and territorial levels for surveillance and monitoring of COVID-19 cases. More specifically, we need assistance in detailed case reporting/analysis and contact tracing to help to quickly identify cases and break chains of transmission by isolating and monitoring close contacts.

Additionally, to prepare the health care system for the surge, there is a need to augment health care human resource capacity across all disciplines.

We are seeking your assistance in reaching out to your members to highlight this call for assistance. We would ask that you direct anyone interested in contributing to the COVID-19 response to the following online application form at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>. Should you have any questions, please direct them to [hc.covidvolunteer-benevolecovid.sc@canada.ca](mailto:hc.covidvolunteer-benevolecovid.sc@canada.ca).

While the most pressing need right now is to strengthen the capacity for surveillance and monitoring, there are undoubtedly other areas for which your members could provide support. As we prepare for the coming surge, we anticipate reaching out to you again to seek your assistance in other key ways. Health professional associations have a key role to play in helping Canada to respond, and we want to thank you for your contributions to protecting the health of Canadians during this most challenging time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Theresa Tam, BMBS (UK), FRCPC  
Chief Public Health Officer of Canada  
Public Health Agency of Canada

Tina Namiesniowski  
President  
Public Health Agency of Canada

Stephen Lucas, Ph.D.  
Deputy Minister  
Health Canada