

HEAL



April 8, 2020

Neil Parmenter
President and Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Bankers Association
Box 348
Commerce Court West
199 Bay Street, 30th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5L 1G2

RE: Health Professional Associations Calling for Banking Supports for Post-Secondary Students During COVID-19

Dear Mr. Parmenter,

On behalf of HEAL, Organizations for Health Action, we are writing to you in support of the letter penned by EHPC (attached), which brings to the attention of the major Canadian banks some serious concerns raised by the student communities among our health professions.

We believe that, although the moratorium on the repayment of Canada Student Loans is helpful, more must be done to support the next generation of Canada's health care professionals.

We know that your association is working around the clock with government and with your member Canadian banks to ensure financial relief programs for their customers through mortgages, personal loans, credit cards and other products. We recognize that these are unprecedented times and that you have been inundated with requests. We want to lend further support to the request from EHPC, since we represent 650,000 regulated health providers. Our students (future healthcare providers) require specific relief measures to help bridge them to better times.

We understand that you are bringing the letter sent on behalf of the Extended Healthcare Professionals Coalition to the attention of your member banks for their consideration. Please let them know that this message is shared by the entire healthcare community represented by HEAL. The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the critical importance of our health care resource. We believe it is imperative that students of health care professions not be forgotten during this crisis. They are the ones who will be shaping the future of health care and taking up the challenges faced by the Canadian health care system post-COVID.

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Thank you very much for your continued work to support Canadians during this challenging time and for sharing the concerns of Canada's healthcare providers.

If there is any further action HEAL can take to support this request, please contact one or both of our Co-Chairs. H el ene Sabourin can be reached by phone at (800) 434-CAOT (2268) ext 244 or by email at hsabourin@caot.ca . Fran ois Couillard can be reached by phone at (888) 263-4676 ext 212 or by email at fcouillard@opto.ca .

Sincerely,

H el ene Sabourin
Chief Executive Officer,
Canadian Association of Occupational
Therapists
Co-Chair of HEAL

Fran ois Couillard
Chief Executive Officer,
Canadian Association of Optometrists
Co-Chair of HEAL

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