

HEAL



April 7, 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.

Our coalition of professional associations, which represents more than 650,000 regulated health care providers, has been hearing similar concerns to those outlined by EHPC from our students.

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 major Canadian banks are offering financial relief programs for their customers through mortgages, personal loans, credit cards and other products. In concert with EHPC, HEAL is requesting that Canadian banks further consider specific relief measures for students in health care professional programs to help bridge them to better times.

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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Organizations for Health Action

HEAL welcomes the opportunity to discuss these concerns with you further and invites you to contact one or both of our Co-Chairs. H  l  ne Sabourin can be reached by phone at 1 (800) 434-CAOT (2268) ext 244 or by email at hsabourin@caot.ca . Fran  ois Couillard can be reached by phone at 1 (888) 263-4676 ext 212 or by email at fcouillard@opto.ca .

Sincerely,

H  l  ne 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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Groupe d'intervention action sant  


Organizations for Health Action

HEAL Secretariat – c/o Canadian Association of Optometrists
234 Argyle Avenue, Ottawa, ON K2P 1B9
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HEAL MEMBERS



www.healthaction.ca

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