

February 1, 2021

The Honourable Member name

Member of Provincial Parliament riding name

Re: Support for Medical Coverage Lymphedema

As a constituent in your riding congratulations on your election to the Ontario Legislature. I am a resident/therapist/family caregiver... in your riding *and I am a person living with lymphedema*.

**March 6th is World Lymphedema Day.** Lymphedema is an abnormal swelling in parts of the body caused by impairment to the lymphatic system. There is no cure, but this condition can be managed by therapy, and compression. We are grateful for the funding provided for compression garments through the Assistive Devices Program.

Research from the Canadian Lymphedema Framework (CLF) indicates there are approximately 1 million Canadians suffering from lymphedema and chronic edema. In Ontario this translates to approximately 388,920 adults and children living with this incurable disease.

The lymphedema community in Ontario is looking forward to some desperately needed changes to provide coverage for education and treatment for lymphedema. These are essential components of managing the disease and preventing life threatening infections.

I welcome the opportunity to provide information of the physical, emotional and financial challenges faced by people living with this incurable disease. For more information please visit [lymphontario.ca](http://lymphontario.ca) .

In 2021 the Lymphedema Association of Ontario (LAO) will be advocating for medical coverage needed to manage this disease.

I am asking for your support in creating and passing a bill for medical coverage for lymphedema in the Ontario legislature. I look forward to your support on March 6th, **World Lymphedema Day**.

Sincerely,

Volunteer name