

Iain Stewart
President
Public Health Agency of Canada
130 Colonnade Road, Room 6501B
Nepean, Ontario K1A 0K9

Dear Mr. Stewart:

We would like to congratulate you on your recent appointment as President of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

In this capacity, you will be instrumental in ensuring the integrity of staffing in your organization in a values- and merit-based system. You will also have a key leadership role, in collaboration with the Public Service Commission (PSC), in ensuring that the public service is non-partisan.

The PSC has delegated to you authorities under the *Public Service Employment Act* (PSEA) to make appointments to and within your organization. The terms and conditions of this delegation, including monitoring and reporting obligations, are identified in the Appointment Delegation and Accountability Instrument, which also lists the authorities being delegated and those you may sub-delegate. We invite you to familiarize yourself with the Appointment Delegation and Accountability Instrument (Annex A).

You will find that our appointment framework provides for discretion that will allow you to achieve the desired outcomes for your organization. It also provides for flexibility in how you exercise the delegated authorities for which you are accountable. We encourage you to review your existing policies and instruments to ensure they continue to meet your organization's staffing needs and are consistent with the strategic direction you wish to set for your organization.

To support you in strengthening your staffing system, we have assigned a staffing support advisor to your organization, who will maintain regular contact with your human resources team.

Please note that your organization is subject to the political activities provisions of the PSEA. As deputy head, your engagement in political activities is limited to voting in federal, provincial, territorial and municipal elections.

Your employees have the right to engage in political activities as long as those activities do not impair, or are not perceived as impairing, their ability to perform their duties in a politically impartial manner. Potential cases of improper political activities by your employees should be referred to the PSC, which has the sole authority under the Act to investigate such cases.

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A virtual meeting will be arranged with you in the near future so that we can discuss these important areas of responsibility and any other questions you might have. In the meantime, should you have any questions about your delegated appointment and appointment-related authorities, or the PSEA's political activity provisions, we invite you to contact us at 819-420-6559 or at patrick.borbey@canada.ca.

Yours sincerely,

D. G. J. Tucker
Commissioner

Fiona Spencer
Commissioner

Patrick Borbey
President and Commissioner

Attachment

Annex A: Appointment Delegation and Accountability Instrument