

Template reply from PC MPPs:

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for emailing me with your concerns about the binding arbitration process with the Ontario Medical Association.

The government has signalled that it cannot in good faith continue with the current arbitration proceeding with the Ontario Medical Association (OMA). Recent developments within the membership of the OMA have called into question the status of an exclusive representative of physicians. Given the significance and the importance of the issues in the arbitration, the government cannot ignore this matter. But please be assured that the government is committed to engaging in a broad and meaningful consultation with all doctors in Ontario.

We remain optimistic for an agreement that will respect doctors while balancing the need to provide patients with the care they deserve and the sustainability of our health care system.

Again, thank you for taking the time to share your views me.

Regards,

Proposed Response – Generic content

Dear, MPP.

While we are relieved to see that the arbitration process will continue, your response which came before this development failed to address core legal principles that guide the arbitration process. The proposed action by the government to walk away from arbitration disrespects the rule of law and the Government's obligation to respect its agreements and contracts. Also, any perceived issue with our membership has no legal bearing on the ability of the arbitration panel to continue.

But, in any case, I also want to emphasize that the medical profession in Ontario is not split. In fact, less than 5 per cent of doctors participated in a recent non-binding opinion poll by a small group of specialists. Furthermore, the validity of that poll remains in question, particularly as voting irregularities continue to be reported.