



May 26, 2015

Brereton Field Naturalists' Club of Barrie  
PO Box 1084  
Barrie ON L4M 5E1

The Hon. Dr. Eric Hoskins  
Minister of Health & Long-Term Care  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hepburn Block  
80 Grosvenor Street  
Toronto ON M7A 2C4

Dear Dr. Hoskins,

I am writing as President of the Brereton Field Naturalists' Club.

We are a volunteer charitable organization that has been active for years connecting people with nature in the Barrie and Simcoe County area. We offer free guided nature walks each year, organize a monthly lecture series and publish a Newsletter.

Our website is: <http://bfncclub.org/>

Our 80 to 100 members and guests are exposed to natural areas for extended periods of time.

As active naturalists, many of our members visit parks and recreational areas around the province and are concerned about their increased risk of exposure to Lyme disease infected ticks.

We therefore urge you, as Minister of Health and Long Term Care, to give priority to promulgating a provincial strategy to address the specific risks of Lyme disease going undetected, including developing the capacity for Lyme disease diagnosis and blood testing in Ontario, and updating the treatment guidelines for Lyme disease.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Christopher Evans  
President, Brereton Field Naturalists' Club

Copy: Ontario Lyme Alliance