

Ministry of Health
and Long-Term Care

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Written Question No. 649

649 Mr. Harris — Enquiry of the Ministry — Will the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care provide the details of the set-up, expected meeting frequency, the mandate, goals and scope, numbers of patient leaders and clinicians participating for the "rare disease working group" the Minister announced on February 29, and explain how the Ministry will liaise with the group and what commitment the Ministry has to deliver on working group requests, indicating when the group will commence it's work, when it will conclude, and how often, and by what means discussion and work is expected to move forward. March 23, 2016

Response:

I have requested a Rare Disease Working Group be struck to create a Rare Disease Strategy specific to Ontario. The working group will be comprised of a number of both clinical leaders and patients to come together to address the key issues facing those with rare diseases.

I expect the working group to get started very shortly and they will have an accelerated timeline much as the Expert Panel had, that was struck to provide the ministry with recommendations on Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome in a three month period. Thus, I am asking the Rare Disease Working Group to provide its recommendations to me within a similar time horizon and the ministry will then be able to consider the working group's recommendations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Hoskins', written over a horizontal line.

Honourable Dr. Eric Hoskins