

**Ministry of Health and Long-Term
Care**
Associate Deputy Minister
Health Services

777 Bay Street, 7th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2C8
Tel.: 416-212-7067
Email: melanie.fraser@ontario.ca

**Ministère de la Santé
et des Soins de longue durée**
Sous-ministre associée
Services de santé

777, rue Bay, 7^e étage
Toronto, ON M5G 2C8
Télé.: 416-212-7067
Courriel: melanie.fraser@ontario.ca



April 9, 2021

**TO: All Child and Youth Mental Health and Addictions Payment Agencies
and Associations**

**FROM: Melanie Kohn
Assistant Deputy Minister**

RE: Canada's Premiers Launch *Promising Practices* Podcast

On March 12, 2021, Canada's Premiers launched a podcast dedicated to sharing promising practices in mental health and addictions and reducing the stigma of mental illness. The podcast, entitled *Promising Practices*, consists of 13 episodes. Each episode will profile an innovative program or initiative in one of the provinces and territories, with a focus on rural, remote and underserved communities.

Led by the Premiers of Yukon and Saskatchewan, as part of the Council of the Federation's symposium on mental health and addictions, all Premiers look forward to sharing stories from across the country with Canadians via this podcast.

Podcast episodes are being released on a regular basis between March and June 2021. On April 14, Ontario will be launching its episode featuring Premier Doug Ford, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions Michael Tibollo, and two leaders in the field of Ontario's mental health and addictions landscape. They will be speaking about the Tele-Mental Health Service for children and youth, an innovative service providing community-based mental health service providers access to a specialized consultation with child and adolescent psychiatrists via videoconferencing.

The podcasts may be accessed at canadaspremiers.ca or on Apple Podcasts, Spotify and Google Podcasts.

Please share the above link with all of your mental health and addiction stakeholders/organizations/agencies as well as health care providers involved in delivering mental health and addictions services (i.e., doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, counsellors) – especially in rural, remote and underserved communities. This podcast series is a reminder of the importance of addressing mental health and addictions issues, including in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Sharing innovative and best practices from across the country takes us one step closer to ending the stigma of mental health and addictions issues and bringing to the forefront all of the collaborative efforts our communities have made over the years and especially during these most challenging times.

Thank you for your ongoing work to support of the delivery of mental health and addictions services to Ontarians; and for sharing this information on one of Ontario's *Promising Practices*.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MKohn', is positioned above the printed name.

Melanie Kohn
Assistant Deputy Minister
Mental Health and Addictions Branch