

November 10th, 2020

The Honourable Scott Moe
Premier of Saskatchewan
226 Legislative Building
Regina, Saskatchewan
CANADA S4S 0B3

Dear Premier Moe, Minister Merriman, and Dr. Shahab,

Re: A call for leadership to combat the rapid spread of COVID-19 in Saskatchewan

In the past 30 days, the number of active COVID-19 cases in Saskatchewan has increased 700% to 1,289. Our hospitals are full, in part due to a 517% increase in COVID-19 admissions. Saskatoon ICUs are at 130% capacity and are diverting patients. It is becoming increasingly clear to us, physicians from across Saskatchewan, that we are losing the battle against this virus. If more is not done to change our course we are confident that winter will bring overflowing hospitals, canceled surgeries, overwhelmed healthcare providers, and needless deaths.

We appreciate that, in battling this epidemic, there are no easy solutions. From the inconvenience of wearing masks, to the isolation of social distancing and quarantine, to the harms felt by local businesses with every escalation in restrictions, we know that doing more will be difficult for Saskatchewan people. However, the lives of our friends and neighbours are on the line.

As our newly re-elected government, we look to you for leadership. Models of successful interventions that could be applied in Saskatchewan are available from Atlantic Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Korea, and more. We know that you have the expertise needed to apply them. A common thread in each successful region and country is the clear and consistent leadership and communication of an empathetic government guided by a solid foundation of science and expert medical opinion.

Both action and inaction will be criticized. We humbly ask you to act with sufficient force to reverse the rising daily case counts while also detailing how and when we would escalate our interventions even further. Making decisions, even when difficult, is the hallmark of strong leadership. The lives and livelihoods of Saskatchewan people depend upon you.

Sincerely,

260 Saskatchewan Physicians

Dr. Ali Aryafar	Family Medicine	Canora
Dr. Victor Obiora	Family Medicine	Canora
Dr. Larita Ramlakhan	Family Medicine	Gravelbourg
Dr. Aileen Hamilton	Family Medicine	Humboldt
Dr. Lesley Kelly	Family Medicine	Humboldt
Dr. Punashish Bhatia	Family Medicine	Humboldt
Dr. Rosemarie Graf	Family Medicine	Humboldt
Dr. Reid McGonigle	Family Medicine	Ile-a-la-Crosse
Dr. Johanna Kaiser	Family Medicine	La Ronge
Dr. Laura Marshall	Family Medicine	La Ronge
Dr. Kevin Govender	Family Medicine	Lloydminster
Dr. Allison Adamus	Family Medicine	Martensville
Dr. Matthew Wonf	Family Medicine	Martensville
Dr. Aimee Seguin	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Andrew Arndt	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Anna Redekop	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Gavin Van De Venter	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Rebecca Epp	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Reed Gillanders	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Annette Viljoen	Family Medicine	Meadow Lake
Dr. Chelsea Wilgenbusch	Family Medicine	Melfort
Dr. Nolan Dyck	Family Medicine	Moose Jaw
Dr. Kristin Foy	Family Medicine	Moosomin
Dr. Frederik Engelbrecht	Emergency Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Brady Bouchard	Family and Emergency Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Aaron Prystupa	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Aristides Rodriguez	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Erin Hamilton	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Janet Tootoosis	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Mari LaCock	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Samuel Fanous	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Tracy Leach	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Kelsey Lazar	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. David Duncan	Psychiatry	North Battleford

Dr. O Alabi	Psychiatry	North Battleford
Dr. Mohammad Mehboob	Family and Emergency Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Annemé Dunhin	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Jeffrey Hesselton	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Patricia Campbell	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Katherine Gorsalitz	Family Medicine	North Battleford
Dr. Tin Yen	Obstetrics and Gynecology	North Battleford
Dr. Danielle Nault	Obstetrics and Gynecology	North Battleford
Dr. Francois Rossouw	Emergency Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Alanna Kurytnik	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Margery Hosak (Jurgens)	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Mira Pavan	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Oriana Watt	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Tom Smith-Windsor	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Elizabeth Hogeweide	Family Medicine	Prince Albert
Dr. Allison Hunter	General Surgery	Prince Albert
Dr. Shelby Jenkins	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Prince Albert
Dr. Melissa Nicholls	Family Medicine	Redvers
Dr. Andrea Lavoie	Cardiology	Regina
Dr. Christins Ames	Emergency Medicine	Regina
Dr. Kaalyn Humber	Emergency Medicine	Regina
Dr. Amy Goodday	Emergency Medicine	Regina
Dr. Malyha Alibhai	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Susan McLellan	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Werner Barnard	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Erin Selzer	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Harmonie Aito	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Eric Sy	Intensive Care (ICU)	Regina
Dr. Dorian Kristmanson	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Regina
Dr. John Thiel	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Regina
Dr. Cynthia Ciezki	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Regina
Dr. Wendy Chrusch	Physiatry	Regina
Dr. Nishma Patel	Psychiatry	Regina
Dr. Lisa Harasen	Emergency Medicine	Regina

Dr. Robin McMaster	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Sarah McLaughlin	Family Medicine	Regina
Dr. Christopher Little	Family Medicine	Rosthern
Dr. James MacMillan	Family Medicine	Rosthern
Dr. Abi Adeniran	Family Medicine	Rosthern
Dr. Andy Liu	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Anita Chakravarti	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Austin Lamb	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Ayoub Dangor	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Brenda Lougheed	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Melanie Orvold	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Sarah Chomicki	Anesthesiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Kevin Ledding	Emergency and Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Andrew Leach	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Brent Thoma	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Brittany Ellis	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Carlyn Gardner	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. James Stempien	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. James Werbicki	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jeffrey Elder	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. John Pesenti	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jonathon Nataraj	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Lauren Roberts	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Mohammad Jamil	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Paul Olszynski	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rachit Batta	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Riley Hartmann	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rob Carey	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rob Woods	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Sachin Trivedi	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Schaana Van De Kamp	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Ashley Selvig	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Randi Ramunno	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Adam Ogieglo	Family Medicine	Saskatoon

Dr. Agnes Powalinsky	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Amanda Loewy	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Andrea Jill Davis	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Angela Baerwald	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Bisayo Olabiyi	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Brandon Canaday	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Carla Holinaty	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Cathy MacLean	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Chelsea Schemenauer	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Christine Pask	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Cody Secord	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. David Woloschuk	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Deirdre Andres	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Dia Austin	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Emily Sullivan	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Erin Russell	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Ginger Ruddy	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jason Hosain	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jennifer Wood	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jessica Harris	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jill Farrukh	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jillian Fraser	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jillian Gill	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Johann Malan	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. John Dosman	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Johnathan Tomas	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jolly de Guzman	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Kali Gartner	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Karen Mohr	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Kate Thompson	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Kellen Baptiste	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Marketa Chaloupka	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Mathew Chui	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Mick Jutras	Family Medicine	Saskatoon

Dr. Peter Kapusta	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rachelle Kettner	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rae Petrucha	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Rhonda Reiniger	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Richelle Olson	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Robyn Schuler	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Sarah Williams	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Shanna Olson	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Shawn Classen	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Siobhan Conway-Hicks	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Somtochukwu Ibezi	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Susan Wagner	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Vicki Holmes	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Carly Conly	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Cassandra Pancyr	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Chris Buttinger	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Sharyle Fowler	Gastroenterology	Saskatoon
Dr. Griselda Serrano	General Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Zohreh Sabbagh	General Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Suzanne Harriman	General Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Dennis Kendall	Health Policy Consultant	Saskatoon
Dr. Matthew Nicholson	Hematology	Saskatoon
Dr. Hassan Masri	Intensive Care (ICU)	Saskatoon
Dr. Paul Hayes	Intensive Care (ICU)	Saskatoon
Dr. Cheyenne Lawton	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Fahd Al-Dhalaan	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Nawal Sharma	Internal medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Olivia Friesen	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Robert Appleton	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Tara Swami	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Mark Fenske	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Amanda Halpin	Nephrology	Saskatoon
Dr. Chance Dumaine	Nephrology	Saskatoon
Dr. Elene van der merwe	Nephrology	Saskatoon

Dr. Ayesha Ahmed	Nephrology	Saskatoon
Dr. Alexandra Carter	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Andrew Kirk	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Gary Hunter	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Haley Block	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Shayla Kennedy	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Amit Persad	Neurosurgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Julia Radic	Neurosurgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Lauren Beliveau	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Saskatoon
Dr. Michelle Ng	Obstetrics and Gynecology	Saskatoon
Dr. David Kim	Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Lauren Allen	Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Meri Kieksi	Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Kristi Billard	Orthopedics	Saskatoon
Dr. Marilyn Kinloch	Pathology and Laboratory Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Carla Angelski	Pediatric Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. J. Alexandra Mortimer	Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Katie Rooks	Pediatric Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Martha McKinney	Pediatric Respiriology	Saskatoon
Dr. Grace Ho	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Kayla Parker	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Linda Xiao	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. William Quan	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Ali Markland	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Karen Leis	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Bradley Selk	Physiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Annabelle Wanson	Psychiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Rachana Bodani	Psychiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Roccamatysi, Dawn	Psychiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Tamara Hinz	Psychiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Kristen Edwards	Psychiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. Brent Burbridge	Radiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Christina Theoret	Radiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Jordan Russell	Radiology	Saskatoon

Dr. Kyle Moulton	Radiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Jordan Olfert	Respirology	Saskatoon
Dr. Julian Tam	Respirology	Saskatoon
Dr. Benjamin Leis	Cardiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Susan Bobbitt	Developmental Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Julia Hassler	Emergency and Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Krista Wempe	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Owen Scheirer	Emergency Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Andrea Symon	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Conrad Veikle	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jacqueline Bucko	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jana Patenaude	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Kayleen Wingert	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Marlys Misfeldt	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Reem AHadi	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Shanna Fenton	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Barbara Large	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Christine Otani	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Erin Stevens	Family medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Jared Diederichs	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Kendra Morrow	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Narmin Ibrahim	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Nicole Shedden	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Yemi Ojelabi	Family Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Mina Niazi	Gastroenterology	Saskatoon
Dr. Sharon Card	General Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Vanessa Wheeler	Internal Medicine	Saskatoon
Dr. Sheila Savedia-Cayabyab	Neurology	Saskatoon
Dr. Elliott Pally	Orthopedic Surgery	Saskatoon
Dr. Russell Murphy	Otolaryngology	Saskatoon
Dr. Andrea Johnson	Palliative care	Saskatoon
Dr. Mahli Brindamour	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Morgan Hewitt	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Nicole Bechard	Pediatrics	Saskatoon

Dr. Ayisha Kurji	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Heather Hodgson-Viden	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Janna Brusky	Pediatrics	Saskatoon
Dr. Lila Rudachyk	Physiatry	Saskatoon
Dr. David Leswick	Radiology	Saskatoon
Dr. Varun Bathini	Urology	Saskatoon
Dr. David Torr	Public Health	Southern Saskatchewan
Dr. Nicole Heintz	Family Medicine	Strasbourg
Dr. Janna Cuthbert	Family Medicine	Swift Current
Dr. Kayla Fehr	Family Medicine	Swift Current
Dr. Kristine Pederson	Family Medicine	Swift Current
Dr. Kelsy Leavins	Family Medicine	Swift Current
Dr. Rosemarie Richardson	Family Medicine	Tisdale
Dr. Sherri Galasso	Family Medicine	Warman
Dr. Kavita Choudhary	Family and Emergency Medicine	Watrous
Dr. Chander Sharma	Family Physician	Watrous
Dr. Jared Oberkirsch	Family Medicine	Weyburn
Dr. Janessa Grosenick	Family Medicine	Weyburn
Dr. Jolene Napier	Family Medicine	Weyburn
Dr. Ivor Orukpe	Family Medicine	Yorkton
Dr. Rasak Abdullahi	Family Medicine	Yorkton
Dr. Marcie Heggie	Family Medicine	Yorkton

Correspondence regarding this letter can be directed to Dr. Brent Thoma at brent.thoma@usask.ca.

Cc: Opposition Leader Ryan Meili and Health Critic Vicki Mowat