t: (905) 477-4006 f: (905) 415-7623 302 Town Centre Blvd., Suite 300 Markham, ON L3R 0E8 siennaliving.ca



April 30, 2020

Ms. Doris Grinspun Chief Executive Officer Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario 158 Pearl Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 1L3

## Staffing Resource Support for Sienna Senior Living during COVID-19

Dear Dr. Grinspun,

On behalf of Sienna Senior Living, I want to express my sincere appreciation to you and the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) for your strong leadership and the incredible commitment you have shown to support the crucial staffing of Sienna's seniors' living residences, many of which are facing a serious staffing crisis related to management of COVID-19.

You and your team at the RNAO were prompt in responding to our request for staffing assistance, immediately releasing a call to action which resulted in additional staffing resources within 24 hours. Through the fantastic efforts of the team at RNAO, we have been able to hire 13 staff and already have 9 of those individuals deployed to COVID-19 positive residences within one week, and are in the process of interviewing many more potential candidates.

We value the heroic efforts of the Nurses, Nurse Practitioners and Personal Support Workers that are coming forward to work with Senior Living in the battle against COVID-19. We value their commitment to safeguarding and caring for seniors who are disproportionately affected by the virus.

The RNAO has represented nurses and nursing students within the province for nearly 100 years and has always advocated for excellence in nursing and strong public policy. With the support and leadership of RNAO and the resources you have provided, your stand in the fight against COVID-19 is admirable.

Again, I want to thank you for your leadership and commitment to shoring up the senior living sector at this time. We greatly appreciate all of your efforts to date and look forward to further collaboration in the future.

Sincerely,

Lois Cormack

President & Chief Executive Officer

**cc.** Joanne Dykeman, Executive Vice President, Operations Gayle Stuart, Vice President, Quality Improvement