

February 2, 2026

The Honourable John Vanthof, MPP  
Timiskaming–Cochrane  
Legislative Assembly of Ontario  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5

RE: Concerns Regarding the Closure of the LifeLabs Laboratory in Greater Sudbury

Dear MPP Vanthof,

On behalf of the Council of the Municipality of Markstay-Warren, I am writing to express our serious concerns regarding the announced closure of the LifeLabs laboratory facility in Greater Sudbury.

The Sudbury LifeLabs facility plays a critical role in providing timely diagnostic services for residents throughout Northern Ontario, including those in Markstay-Warren and surrounding communities. The planned transition of laboratory processing services to facilities located in the Greater Toronto Area raises serious concerns regarding longer turnaround times, potential service disruptions, and increased risks to patient care. Particularly during winter months and periods of inclement weather that frequently affect northern transportation routes.

Reliable access to diagnostic testing is essential to the health and well-being of our residents. Many of our citizens rely on timely laboratory results to support urgent and ongoing medical treatment. Any delays or disruptions may result in adverse health outcomes, particularly for seniors, rural residents, and vulnerable populations.

Council is also concerned about the potential loss of skilled laboratory professionals from our region, further weakening already strained healthcare services across Northern Ontario.

The Municipality of Markstay-Warren respectfully urges the Province of Ontario to engage with LifeLabs and the Ministry of Health to explore options that would maintain local laboratory processing capacity in Sudbury and ensure that residents of Northern Ontario continue to receive timely, high-quality diagnostic services.



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Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We appreciate your continued advocacy on behalf of Northern Ontario communities and respectfully request your support in addressing this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Serré". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marc Serré, CAO/Clerk  
Municipality of Markstay-Warren  
Encl. Closure of Sudbury's LifeLab Laboratory Resolution  
cc: The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Minister of Health  
MPP France Gélinas, Nickel Belt  
MPP John Vanthof, Timiskaming–Cochrane  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Northern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA)  
LifeLabs Ontario