

Dear colleagues,

Later today, you may see reports in the media regarding my personal travel to the United States five times throughout the pandemic. As many of you may know, I live alone in Ontario; my immediate family resides in the United States where I have green card status and worked previously before assuming my position at London Health Sciences Centre.

I want to acknowledge the discrepancy this travel implies between the actions I have asked you to follow and those I chose to take. I have often implored you to set the standard for our community, and while without exception I followed federal quarantine requirements upon my return to Ontario, I understand that my travel to see family could undoubtedly cause frustration given my repeated asks for your adherence to public health measures.

Hindsight will always be 20/20 and I cannot turn back the clock. What I can do is take accountability for my decision to visit with immediate family out of country and fully apologize. Please do not let my actions deter you from continuing to set the example for our community; LHSC is far greater than one individual and now, more than ever, our community will look to you.

I will no longer be traveling until federal restrictions limiting non-essential travel are lifted. Please accept my deepest regret for the impact my actions may have on you and your colleagues.

Dr. Paul Woods
President and CEO
London Health Sciences Centre