College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario
80 College St.
Toronto ON M5G 2E2

Gentlemen/Mesdames,

Re: CPSO Draft Document on Professional Obligations and Human Rights

Thank you for inviting the public's consultation in this matter of physicians' rights of freedom of conscience and religion.

I appreciate the College's recognition of doctors' rights and urge you to maintain it.

Moral stances, based on conscience, are rational and evidence-based, often reinforced by religious belief, and deserve protection, as spelled out for instance in the U.N.'s Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Art. 1) and the Canadian Charter.

Physicians' rights need protection as much as do patients' rights. A doctor or any professional is shown scant respect if his/her conscientious decisions and integrity are disregarded. And these decisions in question here, not to perform certain procedures, do not...
involves discrimination, since they have to do not with the patient but with the wrongdoing of the procedures themselves.

Thank you for your attention to my letter and to this very important issue.