

## **Secure the Future of Medicare: A Call to Care**

Health care in Canada is a fundamental right without distinction of race, gender, age, religion, sexual orientation, political belief, immigration status, and economic or social condition. Organizations representing millions of Canadians will mobilize to defend this right and to ensure that the following principles shape the direction of the Health Accord renewal:

1. The recognition of the highest attainment of health as a fundamental right throughout life and the necessity of preserving public health through active measures of promotion, prevention, and protection including such determinants as housing, food safety, income, education, environment, employment and peace.
2. The recognition that many Aboriginal people have a poor health status and a high burden of disease. The current system is failing and requires a transformation of the relationship between Canada and its Aboriginal people to find solutions together. The Aboriginal people must be at the First Ministers discussions on the Health Accord as these solutions involve all levels of government.
3. The recognition of health care as a public good for which no financial barriers must be erected. We affirm the need for a system of public health care which is organized on the basis of public administration, public insurance and the delivery of services on a public, not-for-profit basis.
4. Opposition to any commercialization and privatization of health care. Therefore the federal government must negotiate a general exclusion of health services and health insurance from all trade agreements.
5. The need for the federal government to fully assume its responsibilities in respect to health, particularly by securing the adequate and predictable federal health transfers and enforcement of the Canada Health Act.
6. The reaffirmation of the original vision of a truly comprehensive public health care system for Canadians providing a continuum of services. The next steps are the expansion of the public system to include a universal Pharmacare plan, a system of home and community care, long-term care, and a strategy for mental health.
7. The need to move towards a community-based, multi-disciplinary team approach to the management, organization and delivery of services, especially in primary care. Levels of services must be sufficient so that the burden of care does not fall on families, mainly women.
8. An accountable health care system through democratic participation and transparent governance at all levels.
9. The recognition that health care workers are critical to the effective operation of the health care system and that decent wages and working conditions are essential to high quality care.

We come together to commit to ensuring that governments throughout Canada renew their commitment to protect and expand Canada's public health care system to meet the present and future needs of all people living in Canada, based on the principles (public administration, universality, comprehensiveness, accessibility and portability) and conditions (no extra billing or user fees, or queue-jumping) of the Canada Health Act. Regardless of where we live, it is now imperative to reaffirm the social values we all share. These values must guide our collective

choices for future of health care. What stands between Medicare and its destruction are the peoples of Canada. Future generations are depending on our vigilance.



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*If your organization would like to sign-on to this statement, please send your information to:*  
[brad@healthcoalition.ca](mailto:brad@healthcoalition.ca)

#### **ENDORSEMENTS (149)**

Action santé Outaouais  
Alliance Against Poverty  
Alliance du personnel professionnel et technique de la santé et des services sociaux  
Alliance of Seniors to Protect Canada's Social Programs  
Alternatives North  
American Income Life Insurance Company  
Association coopérative d'économie familiale de Québec  
Association of Ontario Health Centres  
B.C. Health Coalition  
British Columbia Nurses Union  
Cambridge Provincial NDP Riding Association  
Canadian Alliance of Community Health Centre Associations  
Canadian Association of Social Workers  
Canadian Cancer Survivor Network  
Canadian Congress of Union Retirees of Canada – Burlington Chapter  
Canadian Congress of Union Retirees of Canada – Hamilton Chapter  
Canadian Congress of Union Retirees of Canada – London Chapter  
Canadian Congress of Union Retirees of Canada – Oakville Chapter  
Canadian Doctors for Medicare  
Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions  
Canadian Federation of University Women  
Canadian Harm Reduction Network  
Canadian Health Coalition  
Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network  
Canadian Labour Congress  
Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Canadian Women's Health Network  
CAW 1325 Retired Workers Chapter

CAW-Canada  
Centrale des syndicats du Québec  
Chatham Kent Health Coalition  
Citizens for Public Justice  
CNIC-Canada's National Interest Council  
Coalition des associations de consommateurs du Québec  
Coalition des tables régionales d'organismes communautaires  
Coalition for Seniors and Nursing Home Residents' Rights  
Coalition Solidarité Santé  
Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada  
Confédération des syndicats (CSN)  
Confédération des organismes de personnes handicapées du Québec  
Congress of Union Retirees of Canada  
Conseil central du Montréal métropolitain  
Conseil régional FTQ Montréal métropolitain  
Cornwall & District Labour Council  
Council of Canadians  
Council of Canadians – Brockville Chapter  
Council of Canadians – Guelph Chapter  
Council of Canadians – Peterborough Chapter  
Council of Canadians – Kawarthas Chapter  
Council of Canadians – Toronto Chapter  
Council of Canadians, Nelson-West Kootenay Chapter  
CUPE Local 1302 (Queen's University Library Technicians)  
CUPE Local 1999 (Lakeridge Health)  
CUPE Local 4480 (Lanark County Paramedics)  
CUPE Local 894 (Group Health Centre, Sault Ste. Marie)  
Department of Community Development and Social Work, Algoma University  
Education and Practice Narratives in the Health Professions  
Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario  
Ethical Action Committee  
Fédération de la santé du Québec  
Fédération des femmes du Québec  
Fédération des syndicats de la santé et des services sociaux  
Fédération interprofessionnelle de la santé du Québec (FIQ)  
Friends of Medicare Alberta  
Front d'action populaire en réaménagement urbain  
Guardian Angels Program  
Guelph Wellington Health Coalition  
Hamilton Health Coalition  
Health Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador  
Health for All  
Health Nexus  
Health Providers Against Poverty  
Inter Pares  
InterChurch Health Ministries Canada

International Association of Fire Fighters  
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
Kamloops Health Coalition  
Kingston Faith & Justice Coalition  
Les Frères et Soeurs d'Émile-Nelligan  
London and District Labour council  
London Health Coalition  
Louis Riel Bolivarian Circle  
MacKillop Centre for Social Justice  
Manitoba Nurses Union  
Médecins québécois pour le régime public  
Medical Reform Group  
Mnaamodzawin Health Services  
N.S. Citizens' Health Care Network  
National Pensioners and Senior Citizens Federation  
National Union of Public and General Employees  
New Brunswick Federation of Union Retirees  
New Brunswick Health Coalition  
New Brunswick Nurses Union  
Newfoundland & Labrador Nurses Union  
Niagara Regional Labour Council  
Nova Scotia Nurses' Union  
Oakville/Mississauga KAIROS Group  
Occupy Hamilton  
Older Canadians Network  
Ontario Coalition Against Poverty  
Ontario Health Coalition  
Ontario Humanist Society  
Ontario Nurses' Association  
Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation  
Ontario Public Service Employees Union  
Ottawa Raging Grannies  
PEI Health Coalition  
Peterborough and District Labour Council  
Ploughshares Ottawa  
Positive Living BC  
Prince Edward Island Federation of Labour  
Prince Edward Island Nurses' Union  
Prince Edward Island Teachers' Federation  
Provincial Council of Women of Ontario  
PSAC Local 610 (UWO Graduate Teaching Assistants Union)  
Public Health Social Justice Collective  
Public Service Alliance of Canada  
Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario  
Registered Practical Nurses Association of Ontario  
Regroupement des Associations des Personnes Handicapées de la Gaspésie et des Îles inc.

Regroupement des organismes communautaires  
Regroupement québécois des CALACS  
Retired Teachers of Ontario (District 3 Algoma)  
RightOnCanada.ca  
RNAO – Parish Nursing Interest Group  
Sarnia and District Labour Council  
Saskatchewan Health Coalition  
Saskatchewan Union of Nurses  
Service budgétaire de St-Félicien  
Service Employees International Union – SEIU-West  
Sierra Club Canada Canada  
Société des enseignantes et des enseignants retraités francophones du Nouveau-Brunswick  
Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry Federal NDP association  
Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry Provincial NDP association  
Stratford and District Labour Council  
Students for Medicare  
Syndicat des infirmières, inhalothérapeutes et infirmières auxiliaires  
Table des regroupements provinciaux d'organismes communautaires et bénévoles  
Table régionale des centres de femmes de Montréal métropolitain-Laval  
The Council of Senior Citizens' Organization BC  
Timmins and District Labour Council  
Toronto and Area Council of Women  
Union des consommateurs  
United Church of Canada  
United Food and Commercial Workers Union  
United Nurses of Alberta  
United Steelworkers  
Wellness Training Services  
York University Graduate Students' Association