

2025 Federal Election: Current Health Policy Platform Commitments

As Canadians head to the polls in the 2025 Federal Election, healthcare remains a key issue on the agenda. Here's a look at the major commitments from the political parties on health.

Liberal Party of Canada

- **Improving Access to Health Care**
 - Expand eligibility for dental care to include coverage for those 18 to 64.
 - Maintain the Pharmacare and Dental care program and ensure coverage for diabetes medication and contraception.
 - Stand up to defend the *Canada Health Act* and build a health care system that Canadians can be proud of.
 - Add thousands of new doctors to Canada's health care system by working with provinces, territories, and Indigenous peoples to:
 - Increase medical school and residency spaces, and build new medical schools and expand residency positions, especially for family medicine. This will be done in close collaboration with each province and territory to reflect their priorities and population needs. The unique health care access needs of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis will be considered, and a dedicated stream will be established to increase access to medical care in areas of federal jurisdiction.
 - Make it easier for internationally trained doctors and health professionals to practice in Canada by working with provincial and territorial partners to streamline credential recognition for internationally trained doctors and nurses.
 - Address labour mobility issues and implement pan-Canadian licensure and advance mutual recognition of credentials across provinces and territories to improve workplace flexibility, lower health care costs, and reduce regional shortages.
 - Recruit qualified doctors through a new global recruitment strategy that will fast-track the arrival of doctors into Canada, including Canadians practicing abroad and other U.S. - trained physicians and health workers. Provide increased funding for research grants and infrastructure at hospitals and other health care institutions.
 - Build hospitals, clinics, and more by investing \$4 billion to construct



and renovate community health care infrastructure. This will support investments in public, long-term care; improve access to team-based care, including mental health care services; and provide funding for expensive machinery like MRIs.

- Work with provinces and territories to build hospitals and cost-share these investments and with First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities to ensure improved access to these critical services.ⁱ
- Support training for nurses, PSWs and teachers by expanding the Union Training and Innovation program (UTIP) to include training spaces.

- **Better Mental Health Care**

- Provide 100,000 young people a year with mental health care by establishing a permanent Youth Mental Health Fund. This fund will enhance community-based mental health services and improve the lives of young people.

- **Modernize Canada's Public Health Care System**

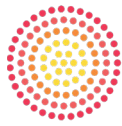
- Significantly reduce wait times for life-saving medications by cutting red tape while maintaining all relevant safety standards, supporting the research community, and delivering lifesaving medicines more quickly.
- Table legislation to enable secure access to health data for Canadians.
- Reduce the administrative burden on doctors with streamlined and standardized forms and scaling up digital tools that significantly reduce paperwork and leave more time for patient visits.
- Launch a new program to support doctors in safely and securely adopting new digital tools such as e-prescribing and e-referrals and support tools that are bilingual for doctors and nurses.
- Implement a national licensure for physicians and nurses, giving health care workers more mobility across the country and making it easier to respond to workforce needs across jurisdictions.
- Launch a Task Force for Public Health Care Innovation to invest and scale up made-in Canada public health care solutions, leverage, and improve the quality of data, and evaluate and ensure accountability in public investments in health care, including the \$25 billion Working Together Agreements signed with provinces and territories.ⁱ

Conservative Party of Canada

- Maintain current pharmacare and dental care programs which aims to protect access to necessary medications and dental care for Canadians across the country.
- May impose mandatory drug treatment on minors and prisoners “when they are found to be incapable of making decisions for themselves”.
- Remove supervised consumption sites and promote recovery and rehabilitation approaches.
- Launch a Blue Seal National Credentialing Plan to help Canadians and newcomers get to work faster by:
 - Working with provinces to create nationally-recognized licenses for doctors, nurses, early childhood educators, and other professions.
 - Providing small loans to help new Canadians complete Blue Seal certification
 - Bringing home Canadian students studying medicine abroad by expanding residency spots for them to work in our healthcare system
 - Rapidly recognizing US.- board certified professionals to bring more qualified physicians to meet Canadians’ health care needs.
 - Adding 15,000 doctors by 2030
- Fund treatment for 50,000 Canadians in treatment centers for addiction recovery.
- Uphold the Canada Health Act to provide every Canadian with timely access to healthcare without charge and defend universal public health care.
- Maintain current federal health transfer agreements to fund the healthcare all Canadians deserve.ⁱⁱ

New Democratic Party (NDP)

- Strengthen public universal health care by expanding pharmacare, dental care, and mental health support for Canadians.
- Boost Canada Health Transfers by an additional 1% for provinces that commit to action and publicly report on their progress to tackle the shortage of physicians.



**Children's
Healthcare
Canada**

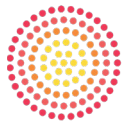
**Santé
des enfants
Canada**

- Ensure every Canadian has a family doctor by 2030 through key initiatives including:
 - Creating residencies for qualified, internationally trained doctors already living in Canada.
 - Implementing a pan-Canadian licensure, to help medical professionals practice where they are needed across the country.
 - Working with provinces and doctors to reduce burdensome administrative bureaucracy imposed on medical practitioners that takes time away from patients.
 - Training and equipping more doctors from northern and rural communities.
 - Working with territorial governments to provide housing and facilities for family doctors and primary care teams to keep healthcare providers in the North.
- Work with Canada's nurses to close the job vacancy gap in the nursing sector, to ensure wage parity and safe staffing ratios.
- Implement a \$5,000 tax credit to help boost pay for more than 780,000 nurses and Personal Support Workers.
- Ban U.S. companies from acquiring Canadian healthcare assets, to prevent further privatization of healthcare services and ensure that Canadian healthcare remains in public hands.ⁱⁱ
- Crack down on cash-for-care clinics that charge Canadians for basic healthcare services, which are typically covered under the public healthcare system.
- Expand funding for crisis and addictions care to help people access the care they need.ⁱⁱⁱ

Green Party of Canada

Universal Health Care Expansion and Equity

- Bolster public health care by expanding health insurance coverage, including mental health care.



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- Plan to strengthen and enforce the Canada Health Act, to make sure public dollars support public care and prevent the expansion of “for profit clinics”, extra billing, user fees, and privatization creep.
- Increase federal health transfers with accountability measures, ensuring funds are used to improve access and equity.
- Reform the Canada Health Transfer (CHT) to guarantee fair funding for rural and remote healthcare services, ensure staffing levels, facility funding, and service access are equitable across all regions.
- Pass a new Primary Care Health Act, complementing the Canada Health Act, to ensure that every Canadian can access a family doctor, nurse practitioner, and community-based primary care team.
- Link new federal health transfers to measurable targets, requiring provinces and territories to demonstrate that no one goes without a primary care provider.
- Expand group practices and community health clinics by hiring more nurse practitioners, mental health professionals, physician assistants, and allied health workers to reduce wait time and improve preventative care.
- Hire 7,500 new family doctors, nurses, and nurse practitioners over five years to address health worker shortages.
- Implement Universal Pharmacare to establish single-payer pharmacare across Canada.
- Expand the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) immediately to all Canadians who meet the eligibility requirements.
- Expand community health services, including mobile clinics for rural and remote communities and increased support for telemedicine.
- Require provinces to provide culturally safe and inclusive primary care services, especially for Indigenous Peoples, rural and remote communities, and historically marginalized groups.

Mental Health and Addiction Services

- Make mental health services fully ensured under the Canada Health Act, ensuring public coverage of therapy, counselling, and psychiatric care through general provincial health transfers.



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- Establish a Canada Mental Health Transfer (CMHT) as a transitional measure, ensuring mental health funding reaches community services while provinces fully integrate mental health into Medicare.
- Earmark 50% of all mental health funding for community-based providers, ensuring stable, long-term funding for nonprofit mental health agencies, harm reduction services, and Indigenous-led programs.^{IV}

Bloc Québécois

- Advocate for a 35% increase to federal health transfers to counter the ongoing health-care crisis.
- Table a bill to amend the Criminal Code and allow people with an illness that will prevent them from consenting to making an advance request for medical assistance in dying (MAID) for provinces that have authorized the process.^V

People's Party of Canada

- Repeal the Canada Health Act (CHA) to allow provinces and territories greater flexibility in establishing mixed private-public universal healthcare systems.
- Replace the Canada Health Transfer cash payments with a permanent transfer of tax points of equivalent value and transfer tax points to provinces and territories, granting them more control over healthcare funding.^{VI}

References

ⁱ Liberal Party of Canada. Canada Strong: Unite. Secure. Protect. Build. 2025

ⁱⁱ Conservative Party of Canada. Canada First: For a Change. 2025.

ⁱⁱⁱ New Democratic Party of Canada. Made for People. Built for Canada: NDP Campaign Commitments. 2025.

^{IV} Green Party of Canada: Our Plan: Green Party Platform 2025.

^V Bloc Québécois. Political Platform 2025.

^{VI} People's Party of Canada. PPC Platform 2025.