

Canadian Alliance of
Community Health Centre
Associations



Regroupement canadien
des associations de centres
communautaires de santé

MANITOBA

PROVINCIAL ELECTION 2011

Responses to Questionnaire Submitted by CACHCA to the Leaders
of the Liberal Party, Progressive Conservative Party, New
Democratic Party and Green Party

SEPTEMBER 2011

SIGN ONLINE PETITION TO IMPROVE HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE IN MANITOBA

<http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/improve-health-and-health-care-for-manitobans.html>



1. **Will your party commit to negotiating a renewed 2014 Health Accord in collaboration and concert with the other Provinces and Territories and the Government of Canada, including:**
 - a. A requirement from your government that the Government of Canada fulfill its stated commitment to a six percent increase in health transfers to the provinces and territories for the 10-year duration of the new 2014 Health Accord; and
 - b. A requirement from your government that any new health transfers to the provinces and territories within the 2014 Health Accord not be subtracted by the Government of Canada from other, existing social transfers to the provinces/territories; and
 - c. Including a provision within the Health Accord re-committing all Provinces, Territories and the Government of Canada to the five principles of the *Canada Health Act*; and
 - d. Including a provision within the Health Accord adopting the following seven principles for health system transformation, as recommended by the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), the Canadian Nurses Association (CAN) and the Canadian Alliance of Community Health Centre Associations (CACHCA): "patient-centred"; "quality"; "health promotion and illness prevention"; "equitable"; "sustainable"; "accountable", and "community-oriented"; and
 - e. Including a provision within the Health Accord identifying "access to appropriate primary health care" as a priority area for federal and provincial action, along with development of federal standards for primary health care and targeted funding to help provinces and territories achieve these standards.

RESPONSE: Yes we agree that the next Health Accord can and should include strong provisions related to the priorities you have identified. In discussions with the federal government we will certainly be looking for stable long-term funding. We are glad that Prime Minister Stephen Harper has committed to 6 per cent annual increases as part of the next Accord. In contrast, Hugh McFadyen has proposed limiting health spending to the rate of economic growth. This would mean a \$756M cut to health care this year alone, and would have devastating consequences on patient care.

2. **Will your party commit to developing a time-bound plan to expand access for Manitobans to Community Health Centre (CHC) services through a combination of new resources for existing Community Health Centres in Manitoba so that they may extend services and programs to community members most urgently in need, and funding for new CHCs in communities where needs cannot be met by an existing Community Health Centre.**

RESPONSE: The NDP have unveiled a long-term vision to improve access to primary care and to ensure all Manitobans who want one will have access to a family doctor by 2015. As part of this plan we will introduce nurse-practitioner-led quick-care clinics and mobile clinics while expanding the successful Advanced Access care model. We are always open to discussing with your organization and members ways to bring team-based, quality care that Manitoba families need where they need it most.



The Liberal Party of Manitoba
did not respond to the survey.



September 2, 2011

Scott A. Wolfe, Federal Coordinator
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Dear Mr. Wolfe:

On behalf of the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba I am pleased to respond to your questionnaire about community health centres (CHC) and the upcoming 2014 Health Accord negotiations.

The upcoming negotiations on a renewed health accord between the provinces and the federal government represent a tremendous opportunity to strengthen our public health care system anchored in the five principles of the *Canada Health Act*.

As Progressive Conservatives we will call for the continuation of stable, predictable long term health care funding for all provinces from the federal government. In addition we believe that the current transfer model of 6% annual increases should be continued until a new national long term predictable and sustainable federal transfer mechanism is developed.

Regarding community health centres, we believe in the value of being able to receive care close to home in one's community and will continue to make improvements to our provincial health care system with that premise in mind.

Throughout the provincial campaign we will be unveiling our plan to improve health care in Manitoba and encourage you to check out our platform updates at www.pcmantoba.com.

Sincerely,

Myrna Driedger
PC Health Critic

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The Green Party of Manitoba
did not respond to the survey.