



November 4, 2015  
The Honourable Jane Philpott MD  
Minister of Health,  
Government of Canada  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Philpott,

The Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC) would like to congratulate you on your appointment as federal Minister of Health in the new Liberal Government. We are encouraged by the commitments in your party's platform as outlined during the election period. In particular, we commend the pledges to:

- introduce new restrictions on the commercial marketing of unhealthy food and beverages to children, similar to those now in place in Quebec;
- bring in tougher regulations to eliminate trans fats, similar to those in the U.S., and to reduce salt in processed foods;
- improve food labels to give more information on added sugars and artificial dyes in processed foods;
- make additional investments of \$40 million for Nutrition North and \$80 million for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency; and
- implement plain packaging for tobacco products.

CDPAC is committed to integrated and focused actions for the prevention of chronic diseases, including addressing the social determinants of health in order to protect and promote

physical and mental health and well-being. We know with your background and experience that these are important issues for you as well, and will look forward to sharing some of our proposals to improve the health of all Canadians.

We also believe evidence-based practical approaches represent the most important avenues for investment by the Government of Canada because they will lead not only to reduced pressure on Canada's healthcare systems but also to increased capacity for national productivity and economic vitality.

CDPAC and its member organizations have a long history of working collaboratively and effectively with the Government of Canada and other stakeholders to help make healthy living easier for Canadians. We look forward to continued dialogue and collaboration with your ministry toward the meeting of our common objectives.

We would very much appreciate an opportunity to meet with you in the near future to introduce ourselves, provide an overview of our current initiatives and priorities and discuss ways in which we can work together to accelerate progress on chronic disease prevention in Canada.

Sincerely,



Hon. Mary Collins, P.C.  
Chair



Craig Larsen  
Executive Director

Cc:

Kim Elmslie, Assistant Deputy Minister, CCDPC, Public Health Agency of Canada  
Rodney Ghali, Director General, CCDPC, Public Health Agency of Canada



**The Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC)** is a network of major organizations that have come together around the common cause of healthy living for chronic disease prevention.

### Mission

*“Working primarily at the national level, CDPAC’s mission is to take an integrated, population health approach to influence policies and practices that will help prevent chronic disease. CDPAC has two inter-related functions – advocacy and mobilizing knowledge for action”.*

### Vision

*“Canadians will be supported by a comprehensive, sufficiently resourced, sustainable, and integrated system of research, surveillance, policies, and programs that promote health and prevent chronic disease.”*

### Alliance Members

Alliance representatives provide strategic direction and oversight to CDPAC’s shared priorities for action on chronic disease prevention. The Chair of the Alliance is Hon. Mary Collins P.C., (BC Healthy Living Alliance). The past Chair is Ms. Ida Thomas (YMCA Canada). The Alliance Members are:

- The Arthritis Society
- BC Healthy Living Alliance
- Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health
- Canadian Cancer Society
- Canadian Diabetes Association
- Canadian Medical Association
- Canadian Nurses Association
- Dietitians of Canada
- Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
- The Kidney Foundation of Canada
- Ontario Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance
- YMCA Canada