



March 28, 2016

The Honourable Jane Philpott, PC, MP
Minister of Health
70 Columbine Driveway,
Tunney's Pasture
Postal Location: 0906C
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

Dear Minister Philpott,

Re: Budget 2016

The Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada (CDPAC) applauds the Government of Canada for the important commitments it has made to healthy living in Budget 2016. As we have discussed, healthcare is neither the only determinant of health nor the most important one. Several commitments in the budget promise to have a positive impact on the social determinants of health. In particular, we are pleased to observe government's attention to:

- Reducing poverty and protecting incomes
- Implementing the Canada Child Benefit
- Strengthening the Nutrition North Canada program
- Targeting funds for heart health research for women, through the Heart and Stroke Foundation
- Tackling men's health, through the Canadian Men's Health Foundation

As you know, CDPAC is part of a growing chorus who believe that a key strategy for reducing many chronic diseases and their burden on Canada's healthcare systems is to reduce consumption of sugar sweetened beverages. To this end, CDPAC continues to urge the

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Government of Canada to implement a tax on sugar-sweetened beverages. We look forward to our continued discussions on this important topic.

If CDPAC can be of any help as you move forward on initiatives that contribute to healthy living for chronic disease prevention, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Ashley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and "A".

Lisa Ashley, Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig Larsen". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Craig Larsen, Executive Director

Cc: Ms. Kamal Khera,
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health



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 member representatives provide strategic direction and oversight to CDPAC’s shared priorities for action on chronic disease prevention. The Chair of the Alliance is Ms. Lisa Ashley (Canadian Nurses Association). The past Chair is Hon. Mary Collins P.C., (BC Healthy Living Alliance). In October 2013, CDPAC became a federally incorporated not-for-profit.

Alliance Member

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

Director of the Board

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Barbara Willet
Ida Thomas

CDPAC Treasurer: Jill Skinner, Canadian Medical Association

**Representatives of CDPAC’s network of Provincial/Territorial Healthy Living Alliances*

Expertise

- ✓ **Engagement of healthy living and chronic disease prevention stakeholders across Canada** through our Alliance and Network of P/T Healthy Living Alliances; events such as our National CDPAC Conferences; and coalitions and consensus building events.
- ✓ **Developing and leading complex healthy living and chronic disease prevention programs** with multiple jurisdictions and experts from research, policy and practice.
- ✓ **Mobilizing information through our ongoing pan-Canadian webinar series** which has a long history of providing cutting-edge learning and knowledge exchange opportunities for the healthy living and chronic disease prevention community in Canada.