



National Leading Health and Education Organizations Calling for Improved Access to Rural Health Care Close to Home as a Priority for Canada

Joint Statement

(September 25, 2019) Despite the universality and accessibility principles of the Canada Health Act, people who live in rural and remote communities do not have equitable access to health care services. A recent Ipsos poll commissioned by the College of Family Physicians of Canada revealed that health care is a key concern in this year's federal election, with 50 per cent of those polled ranking it among their top three issues.*

We call upon all leaders of government and politicians to make comprehensive access to health care a priority. We have heard stories from health care providers, educators, communities, and moreover individual Canadians about access to health care being either denied or delayed because of where they live. We need collaborative partnerships and engaged communities to work together to develop solutions for addressing the health care needs of all across Canada. We want to work with you to help achieve this goal.

Please step up to the plate and make access to health care a priority in this year's election. Canadians want and deserve safe and effective care as close to home as possible.

Francine Lemire, MD CM, CCFP, FCFP, CAE, ICD.D
Executive Director and CEO
College of Family Physicians of Canada

Margaret Tromp, MD CCFP FCFP FRRMS
President
Society of Rural Physicians of Canada

* College of Family Physicians of Canada. *Ipsos survey shows health care is a top priority in the 2019 federal election* [information release]. Mississauga, ON: College of Family Physicians of Canada; 2019. Available from: www.cfpc.ca/uploadedFiles/Publications/News_Releases/News_Items/Ipsos-survey-2019-federal-election-FINAL.pdf. Accessed 2019 Sep 9.
