Ipsos survey shows health care is a top priority in the 2019 federal election

(June 13, 2019, Mississauga, ON) In advance of the 2019 federal election, the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) commissioned Ipsos to conduct a poll on the importance of various election issues and what health matters are top of mind in Canada. The results were released today. The responses show that Canadians rate health care as a key concern in this federal election. Furthermore, the importance that federal leaders place on primary health care issues could sway how survey respondents will vote in October.

The poll’s key findings include:

- Fifty per cent of respondents rate health care as one of the top three priorities in this election
- The top three health care issues are (in order of importance):
  - Ensuring there are enough health care providers to meet the population’s needs
  - Implementing universal pharmacare
  - Improving access to mental health services
- Three-quarters support the implementation of universal pharmacare
- Two-thirds believe it is very important to improve the availability of mental health services
- More than 90 per cent believe the Patients Medical Home vision for family practice is important
- Among the 82 per cent of survey respondents who have a family doctor, eight in 10 rate the quality of care they receive as excellent or good

In May the CFPC also conducted a members-only ePanel survey to seek feedback on the federal government’s role in health care. Fifty-eight per cent of survey respondents felt strongly that the federal government must be more involved in health care, and 80 per cent ranked health care among the top three election issues. The full results of this ePanel survey will be shared with members in early summer.

The CFPC looks forward to playing a leading role in conversations about this year’s federal election. We will continue to advocate for federal leadership on these prioritized health care issues and the important role family physicians play in all three areas highlighted in the Ipsos poll.

This fall the CFPC will release a series of election resources, including a summary of major political parties’ health care platforms and commitments as well as advocacy tools.
To read the full Ipsos poll report please visit https://www.ipsos.com/en-ca/news-polls/Canadians-want-political-parties-to-focus-on-healthcare

About the Ipsos survey/methodology

Between May 10 and 13, 2019, 10 questions were run on Ipsos's Online Omnibus:

- A total of 2,004 interviews were completed by Canadians age 18 and older
- The sample is representative of the Canadian population based on age, gender, and region, excluding the territories
- The 95 per cent credibility interval of the poll is ± 2.5 percentage points; the interval will be greater for smaller subsets of the population
- The data were weighted according to region, age, gender, and education
- The CFPC ePanel was conducted internally by the CFPC and without the involvement from Ipsos

About the College of Family Physicians of Canada

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) is the professional organization that represents more than 38,000 members across the country. The College establishes the standards for and accredits postgraduate family medicine training in Canada's 17 medical schools. It reviews and certifies continuing professional development programs and materials that enable family physicians to meet certification and licensing requirements. The CFPC provides high-quality services, supports family medicine teaching and research, and advocates on behalf of family physicians and the specialty of family medicine.

Contact:
Susan Monic
Manager, Communication Services
College of Family Physicians of Canada
905-629-0900 ext. 432
smonic@cfpc.ca
@FamPhysCan