CFPC calls on our newly elected government to lead the way toward a healthier Canada

(Mississauga, ON, November 12, 2015) As Canada's elected leaders set a course for the new government, the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) advocates for strengthening the Canadian health care system and its policies through strong leadership committed to innovation and focused strategy.

The CFPC proposes four essential steps for the federal government to take in strengthening the national fabric of Canada’s provincial and territorial health care systems

1. **Reverse changes to health funding transfers to support aging population**

   Older populations require more care. We need to care for the seniors of today while planning for tomorrow.

2. **Work with provinces and territories to develop a national health strategy**

   Canadians demand federal leadership in health care. The federal government must collaborate with the provinces and territories to establish a common vision for our health care system. This vision will guide and support the health care system for years to come.

3. **Establish a universal pharmacare plan**

   Numerous organizations support universal pharmacare. This approach would yield significant benefits, including equal access for all to necessary medications. Further, a national drug plan would offer cost savings through bulk purchasing.

4. **Support the Patient’s Medical Home**

   Family practice is at the heart of health care. Family physicians and their patients need their national government to recognize and support the interprofessional model of practice that best delivers compassionate, comprehensive, patient-centred care. Learn more at [www.patientsmedicalhome.ca](http://www.patientsmedicalhome.ca).
“Building and sustaining a robust health care system requires committed leadership and, as such, we hope that health care emerges as top priority for our elected officials,” states CFPC President Garey Mazowita, MD, CCFP, FCFP. “Working together, we can get started on these important first steps that are a part of a much needed road map for the future of health care.”

“As the voice of family physicians in Canada, the CFPC looks forward to contributing a family medicine perspective and expertise to support the government,” adds CFPC’s Executive Director and CEO, Francine Lemire, MD CM, CCFP, FCFP, CAE. “We proudly advocate for innovation and improvement to health care policies and strategies, to ensure a stable and comprehensive system is available to all Canadians.”

The CFPC was encouraged by a number of commitments made by the Liberal Party during the election campaign, and pledges to advocate on behalf of its members and to hold the government to account.

**About the College of Family Physicians of Canada**
The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) represents more than 35,000 members across the country. It is the professional organization responsible for establishing standards for the training and certification of family physicians. The CFPC reviews and accredits continuing professional development programs and materials that enable family physicians to meet certification and licencing requirements and lifelong learning interests. It also accredits postgraduate family medicine training in Canada’s 17 medical schools. The College provides quality services, supports family medicine teaching and research, and advocates on behalf of family physicians and the specialty of family medicine.

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