

Questions for federal candidates

January 1, 2006

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These are sample questions; personalize your question and incorporate your own personal experiences to get clear answers from your candidates.

Private, for-profit surgical clinics drain health professionals from the public system, contributing to the closure of public operating rooms and increased wait times for surgery in the public system. What will your government do to limit the expansion of private, for-profit surgical clinics?

**BCs health
care team: not
just doctors**

and nurses **Voting eligibility**

Canadian citizens who are 18 years or older on election day are eligible to vote. **When and where to vote**

Election day is January 23. Polling stations are open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. The Canada Elections Act states that employees are entitled to 3 consecutive hours to vote, without loss of pay. To find out where to vote, check the voting card you receive in the mail, or phone your local Elections Canada office or a local campaign office. Advance voting will be held on January 13, 14 and 16. Polling stations for advance voting will be open from 12:00 noon to 8:00 pm. For locations, check your voting card, or phone your local Elections Canada office or a local campaign office. Information about additional voting opportunities (e.g., voting by mail or at your local Elections Canada office) is available on the Elections Canada website.

Given that the most recent, in-depth study of Canadas health care system concluded that a publicly funded, publicly delivered system delivers the best health care for Canadians, what do you think the Canadian government should do to strengthen such a system?

What will your government do to stop the expansion of private, for-profit health care in Canada?

3.

What will your government do to ensure that all residents of Canada have equal access to medical services?

4.

What will your government do to ensure that these services are both publicly

funded and publicly provided, so that all residents of Canada will have equal access to these essential diagnostic tests?

5.

Will your government reinstitute public infrastructure funds for new facilities, so that health care facilities can be financed and operated by the public sector?

6.

What will you and your party do to ensure that Canada does not end up with the sort of dysfunctional health care system that exists in the US?

7.

What will you and your party do to ensure that medical clinics do not charge extra fees for medical care? Will you ensure that the *Canada Health Act* is rigorously enforced, and that clinics that charge extra fees are shut down?

8.

What steps will your government take to ensure there are sufficient numbers of these highly trained health science professionals, to continue providing essential health services to Canadians?

9.

- i. Increase funding for womens shelters, transition houses, rape crisis centres and other important public services and community-based programs that support women trying to escape violence?
- ii. Strengthen and enforce anti-violence laws?

10.

What will your party do to address the poverty that plagues these groups, and in particular, what will your party do to address the causes of poverty that are specific to women?

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