

Canadian Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century

NEWS RELEASE • COMMUNIQUÉ

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NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION LOOKS TO GOVERNMENT TO BUILD ON PUBLIC HEALTH MOMENTUM

Ottawa, February 23, 2005 – The Canadian Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century (CCPH21) commends the government on its investment of \$300 million over five years to encourage healthy living and the prevention and control of chronic diseases.

“The Coalition is pleased to see the government build on its initial investment in the Public Health Agency of Canada”, said Elinor Wilson, Coalition Co-chair. “The government has recognized the broad determinants of health through its commitment to the environment and early childhood development, in combination with investments to prevent an influenza pandemic.

In addition to today’s announcement, the CCPH21 calls on the government to build on its previous commitments to public health funding across Canada. This should include a pan-Canadian human resource strategy and a coordinated plan to rebuild the public health system.

“A balanced approach must incorporate the five functions of public health - health promotion, health protection, disease and injury prevention, health assessment and surveillance. Canadians need nation-wide benchmarks for public health performance and an adequate surveillance system”, said Co-chair Dr. Maureen Law.

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The Canadian Coalition for Public Health in the 21st Century (CCPH21) is a national network of non-profit organizations, professional organizations, health charities and academic researchers (see attached membership list). The Coalition’s goal is to influence public policy to ensure that adequate public health functions are in place to protect and promote health, to prevent disease and injury, and to have the information that enables the system to improve and sustain the health of Canadians.

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**Canadian Coalition for Public Health
in the 21st Century
Membership**

Association of Canadian Academic HealthCare Organizations
Association of Medical Microbiology and Infectious Disease Canada
Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health
Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists
Canadian Association for School Health
Canadian Association of Public Health Dentistry
Canadian Cancer Society
Canadian Chiropractic Association
Canadian Dental Association
The Canadian Coalition for Immunization Awareness & Promotion
Canadian College of Health Service Executives
Canadian Dental Hygienists Association
Canadian Diabetes Association
Canadian Healthcare Association
Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Institute of Population and Public Health
Canadian Medical Association
Canadian Nurses Association
Canadian Paediatric Society
Canadian Pharmacists Association
Canadian Physiotherapy Association
Canadian Psychological Association
Canadian Public Health Association
Canadian Society for International Health
Canadian Society for Medical Laboratory Science
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association
Chronic Disease Prevention Alliance of Canada
Community & Hospital Infection Control Association Canada
Dietitians of Canada
Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada
Institute of Population Health - University of Ottawa
National Specialty Society for Community Medicine
St. John Ambulance
Ontario Public Health Association
Physicians for a SmokeFree Canada
Safe Kids Canada
The Lung Association
University of Toronto, Department of Public Health Sciences, Faculty of Medicine
YMCA of Canada