

Where the Federal Political Parties Stand on Key Health Care Issues



Wherever possible, we have used the party's own words to describe their position (except where they are contradicted by their actions). We will update this as the parties' full platforms are released.

Political Party (alphabetical order)	1. Renew the Health Accord Commit to improving the federal government's share of health funding, not cut and download it onto the provinces.	2. Stop Privatization & Two-Tier Charges for Patients Stop private clinics that undermine single-tier health care. Our money is better spent on care not profiteering.	3. Create Public Drug Program A public drug program would better control too-high drug prices and put money towards safer, needed medications.	4. Improve Seniors' Care Build a plan to meet the chronic care and longer term care needs of seniors and other Canadians, don't cut care for those most in need.
Conservatives	Refused to meet with provincial governments from across Canada to renew the Canada Health Accord and, with it, the funding formula for health care. Announced a plan – without consultation – that will cut \$36 billion from health care funding to the provinces over the next 10 years compared to funding levels if the Accord was renewed. Under this plan, Ontario is the hardest hit of all the provinces; we lose \$8 billion.	Said that they support the Canada Health Act, but while in power they have taken no action to protect Canadians from unlawful two-tier charges and privatization. They are not upholding the Canada Health Act.	Won't participate in any discussion on creating a national drug plan, in fact, they walked away from a committee with the provinces to create a public drug plan.	No action has been taken, but the proposed \$36 billion in cuts to health care funding will force provinces to cut and privatize more seniors' care.
Green Party	Committed to the renegotiation of the Health Accord. Will establish a "Council of Canadian governments" representing provinces, territories, municipalities and indigenous governments to create a working committee on health care.	Committed to eliminating 2-tier health care as quickly as possible.	Committed to creating a universal pharmacare program.	Pledged to improve the existing chronic care system and expand home support and home care programs for seniors. Promise to develop a national home care policy.
Liberals	Committed to meeting with the provinces to renegotiate the Health Accord and funding formula, with focus on a federal commitment to expand, invest in, and prioritize home care.	Committed to supporting the Canada Health Act and state that every Canadian must have access to publicly funded health care.	Committed to improving access and reducing cost of prescription medications by working with provincial & territorial governments to negotiate better prices.	Will immediately invest \$3 billion over 4 years to prioritize home care services. Committed to working with provinces & territories to strengthen home care. Will invest in long-term care facilities.
NDP	Committed to meeting with the provinces to renegotiate the Health Accord and funding formula as first priority for new Health Minister if elected.	Committed to better monitoring and prevention of extra-billing of patients and other additional fees charged by private clinics.	Committed to making prescriptions more affordable with a universal drug plan that improves coverage for Canadians.	Announced a \$1.8 billion seniors' strategy over 4 years (\$450 million per year) to build 5,000 long-term care beds across Canada, broaden access to home care for 41,000 seniors, improve access to palliative care. Will launch a national Alzheimer's and dementia strategy. In context, Ontario needs about 20,000 long-term care beds, so while the money is something, it is only a small part of the need. It is not clear what national standards will be for these programs.