

National Public Health Coalition looks to Government to build on Public Health Momentum

OTTAWA, Feb. 23 /CNW Telbec/ - 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.

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 below 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.

For further information: Dr. Elinor Wilson, Coalition Co-chair, (613) 797-5005; Dr. Maureen Law, Coalition Co-chair, (613) 569-9605.

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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