Environmentally Sustainable Health Systems in Canada

RATIONALS

The Canadian Medical Association (CMA) urges policymakers to prioritize the retooling of health systems in Canada to make them more sustainable. This is essential for protecting and improving the health of Canadians, ensuring national security, fostering economic growth, and attaining the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Health systems must also serve as an example for sustainable development and the use of best practices.

Health systems play a significant role in addressing climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and achieving sustainable development goals. They have the potential to actively contribute to reducing environmental impacts and improving health equity. However, current health systems in Canada are not fully aligned with these goals.

Current health systems are characterized by high resource consumption, waste generation, and carbon emissions, with 3% of the country's total greenhouse gas emissions attributed to the health sector. Health systems are among the largest consumers of water, energy, and land. They also generate significant waste, which often has a long-lasting impact on the environment.

The incorporation of environmentally sustainable practices in health systems is not only a matter of reducing environmental impacts but also a way to improve health outcomes. Research has shown that sustainable practices can lead to better health and well-being for individuals and communities.

The CMA believes that environmental sustainability should be a central part of the policy framework for health systems. This involves integrating environmental considerations into decision-making, promoting the use of sustainable technologies, and fostering a culture of sustainability within the health sector.

Documents

CMA 2023 Pre-budget Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
CMA 2023 Pre-budget Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14490

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-10-06

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources
Population health, health equity, public health

Documents

CMA submission
CMA 2023 pre-budget submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
October 6, 2022
CMA Recommendations on Canada’s First National Adaptation Strategy: Addressing the health impacts of climate change

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14484

**POLICY TYPE**  Parliamentary submission

**DATE**  2022-06-23

**TOPICS**  Population health, health equity, public health
Health systems, system funding and performance

**Documents**

[Image of CMA submission]

- CMA Recommendations on Canada’s First National Adaptation Strategy:
  Addressing the health impacts of climate change

June 23, 2022
CMA Letter to the Council of the Federation regarding the Council of the Federation meeting and Canada’s health funding priorities (health workforce, primary care, labour mobility)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14486

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-06-22

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents
Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14475

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
DATE                2022-05-09
TOPICS              Health systems, system funding and performance
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health

Dr. Katharine Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association

May 9, 2022
Thank you very much.
Health Human Resource Policy Recommendations: Summary. Briefing to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14473

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POLICY TYPE</th>
<th>Parliamentary submission</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>2022-04-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Documents
Appearance before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14472

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-03-28
TOPICS  Health human resources
  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents

Appearance before the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities

Dr. Katherine Smart
President of the Canadian Medical Association
March 28, 2022

CMA Policybase - Canadian Medical Association
Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14471

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-02-22

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Federal Policy Options to Advance Pan-Canadian Licensure

Improving health care by reducing interprovincial and interterritorial barriers
February 22, 2022
Study on Canada’s Health Workforce
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14469

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2022-02-16
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
  Health human resources
  Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Appearance before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health:

Study on Canada’s Health Workforce

DR. Erin Wenzel-Helm
President of the Canadian Medical Association
February 15, 2022
Dent support system
Recommendations for federal action to address Canada’s health care crisis
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14468

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2022-02-15

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources
Ethics and medical professionalism

Documents

Requirements for federal action to address Canada’s health care crisis
Submission to the House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance
February 15, 2022
CMA 2022 Pre-Budget Submission
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14445

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2021-08-05
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
CMA Letter – Bill C–30 Implementation
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14442

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-06-24

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
National Approach to Licensure
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14438

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE         2021-05-26
TOPICS       Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Consensus statement on networks for high-quality rural anesthesia, surgery, and obstetric care in Canada
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14477

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement
DATE  2021-05-17
TOPICS  Health systems, system funding and performance
Health human resources

Documents
Learning from the pandemic – Transforming and improving Quebec’s health care system

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14388

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2021-01-21

TOPICS
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Closing the Gaps: Advancing Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery for Older Adults
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14384

POLICY TYPE
Policy endorsement

DATE
2020-12-15

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
National Standards for Long-Term Care: The art of the possible?
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14383

POLICY TYPE  Policy endorsement

DATE  2020-12-08

TOPICS  Population health, health equity, public health
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Committee Appearance: House of Commons Standing Committee on Health (HESA)
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14381

POLICY TYPE          Parliamentary submission
DATE                2020-11-30
TOPICS              Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Valuing Caregivers and Recognizing Their Contribution to Quebec’s Health System

https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14373

POLICY TYPE  Parliamentary submission
DATE  2020-09-29
TOPICS  Health human resources
         Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents
Recommendations for Canada’s long-term recovery plan - open letter
https://policybase.cma.ca/link/policy14262

POLICY TYPE
Parliamentary submission

DATE
2020-08-27

TOPICS
Population health, health equity, public health
Health systems, system funding and performance

Documents