Answering the Wake-up Call: CMA's Public Health Action Plan

CMA submission to the National Advisory Committee on SARS and Public Health

June 2003

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The public health community in Canada and around the world has been called to action by the need for improvement in health outcomes. The CMA applauds the recommendations of the National Advisory Committee on SARS and Public Health and is committed to working with government and community groups to improve the health of all Canadians.

The Canadian Medical Association urges the federal, provincial and territorial governments to:

1. Improve and expand the role of public health in the health care system and in the delivery of health services.
2. Enhance public health capacity and integrate public health-care information systems.
3. Develop a national framework to address health promotion and disease prevention.
4. Establish a national strategy to address community safety and healthy public policy.
5. Establish a system to monitor and report on the impact of public health initiatives on health outcomes.

The CMA recommends that the federal, provincial and territorial governments:

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