

## **Principles of the Canada Health Act**

*Friends of Medicare is committed to ensuring that all levels of government uphold the principles of the Canada Health Act:*

- ⇒ *Comprehensive coverage of all medically required services.*
- ⇒ *Universal coverage for all Canadians regardless of income.*
- ⇒ *Accessible to all residents uninhibited by user fees.*
- ⇒ *Portable from province to province.*
- ⇒ *Publicly administered on a non-profit basis.*



**Friends of Medicare**  
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*Working for you to  
strengthen and expand  
public health care in Alberta*

## Who Are We?

Friends of Medicare is a coalition of individuals, social justice groups, unions, churches and other organizations dedicated to the strengthening and support of public health care in the province of Alberta.

Friends of Medicare has no affiliation with any provincial or federal political party.

## Our History

Friends of Medicare was incorporated as a non-profit society in 1979. For 30 years we have fought hard on issues such as extra billing by doctors, Bill 11 and the "Third Way". Along the way, we have had many successes, and found allies in 100's of thousands of Albertans.

## What Do We Do?

Friends of Medicare raises awareness and educates Albertans about the benefits of public health care. We lobby government and propose reforms that would strengthen and enhance our public health care system.

## Why Should You Join Friends of Medicare?

Our public health care system is the most valuable public asset we own together as a society. Public health care is there for everyone, and is part of what makes us a strong, caring and just nation.

There will always be individuals who seek to privatize our health care system for financial gain, so it is up to us to stand up and fight for a strong public health system.

Private-for-profit business interests are gaining influence in Alberta. It is the provincial government's bias to expand private health care and diminish our public Medicare system.

Public health care is more economical, more equitable, and certainly more efficient than private, for-profit medicine. Countries around the world look enviously at what Canada has achieved. It is up to the public to push for a stronger, expanded system for the 21st century.

## Membership Application/Renewal

Friends of Medicare welcomes the support and participation of organizations and individuals in Alberta who are committed to preserving a single comprehensive public health care system accessible to all citizens. We encourage you to become a member by joining online @ [www.friendsofmedicare.org](http://www.friendsofmedicare.org) or by returning this form with your membership fee.



***I support public health care and the critical work of Friends of Medicare!***

### Memberships:

- \$25/year - Organizational  
 **\$10/year - Individual**  
 \$5/year - Limited income

### Make a Donation:

***As a volunteer organization, Friends of Medicare receives no funding from any government or political party. Your gift will help us to raise public awareness and educate Albertans on concerns related to health care in Alberta.***

\$100    \$50    \$25    Other \_\_\_\_\_

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Name

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Address

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Code

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Phone

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Email

***Thank you for your support!***

Cheque should be made payable and sent to:  
Friends of Medicare  
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