



# NDP Responds

Note: We have yet to release our full platform but here are the answers to date outlining our commitments.

## Canadian Chiropractic Association

Thank you for your letter of August 28, 2015 and the opportunity to respond to questions concerning the New Democratic Party's position on MSK health.

- 1. How will your party recognize MSK health as an important health issue and will you commit to working with the CCA following the election to look at the kind of innovation Canada's health system requires?*
- 2. How will your party acknowledge the importance of MSK health on the lives of Canadians, including soldiers and Veterans?*

Affecting millions of Canadians and reportedly the second leading cause of our visits to physicians, New Democrats appreciate that MSK health has a significant impact both on Canadians' personal wellbeing and on Canada's health care system.

New Democrats believe strongly that innovative solutions exist to the pressures on our public health system. We are also convinced, based on the evidence, that an important area of that innovation lies in the increased use of collaborative, inter-disciplinary, patient-centred teams focused on the treatment and prevention of disease and health-damaging conditions, such as those associated with MSK health. We must work to enable chiropractors to contribute more fully to that collaboration.

As government, we will lead a renewed federal-provincial-territorial collaboration in addressing the health needs of Canadians. We will inject significant federal funding into the provincial-territorial delivery of health services and initiate a new Health Accord to map out future directions. We will also make an introspective examination of those areas of health care delivery within the federal jurisdiction – the latter being of particular interest in light of the elevated incidence of MSK problems within the populations falling directly under that authority.

Members of the Canadian Chiropractic Association should be assured that the role and potential contribution to be made by chiropractors will figure prominently as we search for innovative ways to improve public health care. New Democrats look forward to working with the CCA on these important issues in the post-election period.

Regards,

Canada's New Democrats