

HOW THE LIBERALS HAVE HURT PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

Paul Martin has put public health services at risk by:

- cutting federal health funding by 40 per cent over the past 9 years
- opening the door to privatization and promoting public private partnerships (P3s)
- making Canadians wait for care while creating opportunities for more for-profit delivery
- allowing for-profit clinics in BC, Alberta, Quebec and Nova Scotia
- ignoring Romanow's recommendation to expand public health care to include pharmacare and home care
- putting Medicare at risk in trade deals.

The Tories are no better

Conservative Party leader Stephen Harper supports private sector delivery of vital health services. He has called for "no restrictions on private health care delivery within the public system" and "flexibility of delivery options."

What the NDP says

The NDP is the only party that has consistently defended a publicly funded and publicly delivered Medicare system. The NDP will:

- prohibit public money from being spent on private, for-profit hospitals and P3s
- ensure diagnostic services are treated as "medically necessary," protecting them from privatization
- enforce the *Canada Health Act* to stop provincial abuses
- restore federal funding to 25 per cent of total health expenditures

We want a government that will:

- stop for-profit P3 hospitals and private clinics
- increase federal funding for health care to 25 per cent on the condition that public money is not directed to for-profit care
- support public delivery of all health services including food, housekeeping and laundry
- expand public health care to include pharmacare and home care
- respect, enforce and strengthen the *Canada Health Act*
- exclude health care from all trade deals



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