PAUL MARTIN'S LIBERALS:

BAD FOR PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

Paul Martin has allowed the growth of for-profit health care across the country. Everywhere, the public system is at risk.

Martin's Health Minister, Pierre Pettigrew, was clear:

"If some provinces want to experiment with the private delivery option...we should be examining these efforts" (remarks to a Parliamentary committee, April 27, 2004).

Pettigrew just said out loud what Paul Martin has been doing all along.

Under Martin, we've seen the growth of:

- for-profit clinics
- private MRIs
- · corporate home care and long-term care
- for-profit "P3" hospitals
- trade deals that threaten Medicare.

Martin paints himself as Medicare's saviour but he's undercut public health care at every turn – by not paying the federal government's fair share while allowing provinces to privatize.

We don't need more empty promises. What we need is a real commitment to proper funding - 25 per cent of total health care spending - with guarantees that federal health dollars won't be diverted to big business.

Without a guarantee of public delivery, more federal spending just feeds the corporations' bottom line. It does nothing to cut waiting times and ensure patients and families get the care and support they need.

WE NEED PUBLIC DELIVERY, NOT JUST PUBLIC FUNDING, FOR HEALTH CARE.



