

Premier Brian Pallister
Chair, Council of the Federation
Suite 630, 360 Albert Street
Ottawa, ON K1R 7X7



Dear Premier Pallister,

Thank you for your letter of August 17, 2021 requesting more information about the Conservative Party's commitments to health care and the Canada Health Transfer. I'm pleased to share with you details from Canada's Recovery Plan, the Conservative plan to get the economy back on track and secure the future.

Under the previous Conservative government, transfers to the provinces grew by at least six per cent a year. In 2017 Justin Trudeau cut this in half. Adding insult to injury, the Trudeau government only committed to a one-time top-up of the Canada Health Transfer as part of the 2021 federal budget.

In order to ensure Canada is never again unprepared for a pandemic and to secure the future of our country's health-care systems, the federal government must ensure provinces receive stable, predictable, and flexible funding for the health-care priorities that matter most to them.

Through Canada's Recovery Plan, a Conservative government will immediately act to provide stable, predictable funding for health care to the provinces, so our frontline heroes have the resources they need to do their job and ensure patients receive the quality care they deserve.

Within the first 100 days of forming government, I will meet with the Premiers to propose a new health agreement that returns the annual growth rate of the Canada Health Transfer to a minimum of six per cent. Under a Conservative government, the Canada Health Transfer will increase annually by six per cent or in line with nominal GDP, whichever is higher. Returning the growth rate to six per cent will inject approximately \$60 billion into Canada's provincial health-care systems over the next 10 years. This commitment represents the largest increase in federal health transfers in a generation.

As Prime Minister, I will also work with the provinces to ensure mental health is recognized as the health priority it is through our proposed Canada Mental Health Action Plan. We will look to partner with the provinces with the goal of ensuring an additional million Canadians receive access to mental health treatment every year.

Furthermore, I recognize that Canada's Premiers have been calling for much-needed reforms to the federal Fiscal Stabilization Program. Canada's Conservatives are committed to fixing the program, so that provinces experiencing major economic shocks receive current and retroactive financial assistance. Through Canada's Recovery Plan, a Conservative government will lower the revenue decline threshold

so that it's triggered at three per cent rather than the current five per cent and lower the resource revenue decline threshold so that it is triggered at 40 per cent rather than the current 50 per cent. We will also remove the per-person payout cap and make these changes retroactive to 2015.

I understand that provinces and territories are facing severe strain on their health care systems and finances. A Conservative government will get our economy firing on all cylinders and secure the future of Canada's health care systems so that no Canadian is left behind.

Sincerely,



The Hon. Erin O'Toole
Leader, Conservative Party of Canada

Cc: All Premiers