



Canadian  
Physiotherapy  
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canadienne de  
physiothérapie

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The Honourable Marjorie Michel, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Health

By Email: [hcmminister.ministresc@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:hcmminister.ministresc@hc-sc.gc.ca)

May 22, 2025

Dear Minister Michel,

On behalf of the Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA), I am delighted to extend our congratulations on your election and appointment as Canada's Minister of Health. We look forward to working together to support your government's ambitious agenda, which we see deep alignment with.

We particularly commend your government's focus on improving access to health care by enhancing the labour mobility of health-care workers, investing in community health-care infrastructure, and modernizing our public health-care system.

The CPA has developed strong relationships across government, and we are pleased to have informed the development of critical policies like the extension of Canada Student Financial Assistance to include physiotherapists. Further, physiotherapy professionals are proudly sitting on key advisory councils like the National Seniors Council, providing critical perspectives to improve the health outcomes of priority populations.

Physiotherapy professionals are highly skilled primary care providers who provide barrier-free, equitable access to health care to millions of Canadians. Health care and the economy are inextricably linked. The overall economic burden of illness in Canada totals \$235B, yet the economic impact physiotherapy provides to the Canadian economy to counter that is significant — physiotherapy is already reducing Canada's health-care burden by hundreds of millions of dollars every year, and it has the potential to support billions of dollars in savings if the supply of physiotherapy were to be aligned to the OECD average.

In 2025, physiotherapy is projected to contribute \$4.7 billion to Canada's economy. This impact comes via the employment of 29,000 physiotherapists across the country, who help drive their local economies, and ensure that from coast-to-coast-coast, Canadians stay healthy and engaged in their communities and are able to return home and to work after illness or injury.



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While physiotherapy professionals are already contributing significantly to the health and well-being of Canadians, there is so much more they can do, if we work together to remove the barriers they're experiencing. This includes optimizing their scope of practice to maximize the types of activities they can perform, aligning Canada's physiotherapist-to-population ratio with the OECD average, and expanding access to physiotherapy within health-care settings — including by adding physiotherapists to primary health-care teams, and by expanding access to physiotherapy for vulnerable populations like older adults and Canadians living with chronic pain.

Prioritizing physiotherapy is not only a sound health-care strategy, but also a fiscally responsible approach to strengthening Canada's economy and improving the well-being of its citizens.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss how the CPA can collaborate with your ministry on our shared goals, with the intention of improving the health, wellness, and productivity of all Canadians. A member of the CPA team will be in touch shortly regarding scheduling. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Krissy Bell

Chief Executive Officer  
Canadian Physiotherapy Association