



Canadian
Physiotherapy
Association

Association
canadienne de
physiothérapie

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March 27, 2020

The Honourable Jean-Yves Duclos,
President of the Treasury Board
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister,

The Canadian Physiotherapy Association (CPA) represents 15,000 physiotherapy professionals and students across Canada. In partnership with provincial and territorial branches and practice divisions, the CPA enables members to learn, share knowledge and enhance practice. The CPA provides resources, education, ideas and advocacy to enable our professional community to better serve Canadians.

The CPA would like to thank you for the removal of a prescription requirement for physiotherapy services in Canada under the Public Service Health Care Plan (PSHCP) until April 24, 2020. Your recognition of the importance of providing Government of Canada workers easier access to the health services they need in these trying times is most welcome. This is a positive step that our members have been asking for and will reduce the burden on the health care system in a meaningful way as our communities respond to the COVID-19 outbreak. While this change meets the immediate needs of public servants accessing physiotherapy services, the health care system stands to be facing additional pressures due to COVID-19 well beyond the April 24 timeframe for this measure. As such, the CPA encourages you to extend the prescription exemption for physiotherapy services beyond the current April 24 deadline, and to consider making this removal permanent.

Physiotherapists are an integral part of the health care system and they play a key role in maintaining and improving the health and wellbeing of patients, including Canada's public servants. We look forward to continuing supporting the government in its efforts to deal with COVID-19 pandemic and welcome any opportunities to contribute to its decisions and actions. Please contact us with any questions or if we can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

John-Paul (JP) Cody-Cox
Chief Executive Officer
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c.c.: The Honourable Bill Morneau, Minister of Finance
The Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health