



CANADIAN FEDERATION
OF NURSES UNIONS
LA FÉDÉRATION CANADIENNE
DES SYNDICATS D'INFIRMIÈRES
ET INFIRMIERS

MEDIA RELEASE

Canada's Nurses say, 'Conservative Party flatlines on health platform,' with the release of CFNU's party performance card

October 15, 2015 (Ottawa) – Canada's Nurses have released a party performance card ranking the commitments to health care that each of the major federal political parties have made throughout the course of the election.

Throughout polls early in this election, voters clearly identified that health care was a top concern. The Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions (CFNU) highlighted four key areas that needed to be addressed: a safe seniors' strategy, a national prescription drug program, committing to a publicly-funded health care system, and developing a health human resources plan.

"This election Canada's Nurses have been vocal in demanding that our federal leaders step up and articulate a clear strategy for our health care system, if they want to be the next Prime Minister," said CFNU President Linda Silas. "We have released this party performance card to showcase which leaders have listened to the health care needs of Canadians."

The report card weighs the party's commitments to CFNU's four priority areas. The NDP had perfect scores of "5" on both a drug plan and defending federal funding, while the Liberals scored a perfect "5" on seniors. The Conservative Party were the only party to score "0" on all of the key issues recommended by Canada's Nurses.

"Our organization is non-partisan, and in this election campaign we have given each leader equal opportunities to speak out on the number-one issue for Canadians," said Linda Silas. "After evaluating what has been promised and discussed this election, there is no doubt that a Conservative government would be a final nail in the coffin for Canada's health care system as it stands," Silas said.

Canada's Nurses urge voters to review the pledges and party performance card on key health care issues by visiting www.voteformcare.ca, before they cast their ballots on Election Day.

"The long wait times we see, the lack of long-term care beds for seniors, the number of Canadians unable to fill their prescriptions – all of these situations will only get worse," said Silas. "In this election I ask you not to vote for another Conservative government, and to help Canada's Nurses protect and enhance our health care system for all Canadians."

The Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions (CFNU) is Canada's largest nurses' organization representing nearly 200,000 nurses and student nurses. The CFNU has been advocating for national discussions on key health priorities, such as a national prescription drug plan, a comprehensive approach to long-term and continuing care, greater attention to health human resources, and federal government engagement on the future of public health care.

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