

CANADA'S NURSES

OUR  
VISION FOR  
NATIONAL  
**PHARMACARE**



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

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**CANADA'S NURSES** support the implementation of an effective national pharmacare program based on the following **PRINCIPLES:**

1.

## **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

National pharmacare must seamlessly incorporate prescription drug coverage into the greater public health care system. The system must be governed by a public authority on a non-profit basis to ensure accountability exclusively to the public interest and democratic institutions.



2.

## **UNIVERSALITY**

To prevent people from falling through the cracks, everyone in Canada should be covered by the same plan on equal terms and without financial barriers. This will ensure universal coverage based on need and not ability to pay. Furthermore, it will nearly eliminate cost-related nonadherence to prescriptions, which contributes to the deaths of over 600 Canadians per year suffering from one disease alone.



# 3.

## SINGLE-PAYER

Only a single-payer system can effectively leverage bulk buying to bargain down prices for covered prescription medications and save between \$4 and \$11 billion per year. These savings could be reinvested in needed health care services such as seniors care, home care, mental health and Indigenous health. A single-payer system will also achieve billions in administrative efficiencies, much like the single-payer public health care system. Put simply, it makes economic sense because “the bigger the buyer, the bigger the bargaining power”!



# 4.

## NATIONAL FORMULARY

A common, comprehensive national formulary must be established based on the evidence and administered by an arm's-length, depoliticized public agency. The agency's primary objective will be to maximize health benefits per dollars spent, using value-for-money and clinical assessments.



Canada's nurses believe that these four principles must be secured in federal legislation and matched with **APPROPRIATE FEDERAL TRANSFERS** to the provinces and territories.

# Let's build pharmacare for Canada, together.

## CANADIAN FEDERATION OF NURSES UNIONS

We are Canada's nurses.

We represent close to 200,000 frontline care providers and nursing students working in hospitals, long-term care facilities, community health care and our homes. We speak to all levels of government, other health care stakeholders and the public about evidence-based policy options to improve patient care, working conditions and our public health care system.

## CFNU MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS



CANADIAN FEDERATION  
OF NURSES UNIONS

2841 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON K1V 8X7  
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