

# PUBLIC HEALTH CARE CHEAT SHEET

Not all political commitments are equal. Here are some keywords to look for in parties' health care platforms.

## KEEP IT PUBLIC

## FUND IT FAIRLY

LOOK FOR

Support public health care  
Stop for-profit health care  
Address wait times  
Improve access  
Enforce the Canada Health Act

Increase federal funding  
Tie health care dollars to health care services  
Enforce the Canada Health Act

Encouraging health care "choices" – it's often a code word for increased privatization of health care services  
Two-tiered system

No mention of funding  
Austerity measures  
Cuts to services

BE WARY OF

## EXPAND IT

### PHARMACARE

### SENIORS' CARE

LOOK FOR

A plan that is:  
Universal  
Public  
Comprehensive  
Accessible  
Portable

National strategy  
Improve access and quality of care  
Additional funding tied to national standards

No mention of a national pharmacare plan  
A public/private system  
Only "filling in the gaps" - e.g. with a program that provides pharmacare only for a certain demographic  
Reducing the price of medication through bulk purchasing only  
Allowing provinces to opt out

No mention of a seniors' care strategy  
No additional resources to address the shortfalls - e.g. money only for "new" programs  
Increased privatization - e.g. building new private facilities or Public-Private Partnerships (P3s)

BE WARY OF