

AGENDA
Provincial/Territorial Health Ministers' Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2017
8:30am – 3:00pm

Welcome and Opening Remarks (AB/ALL)	8:30 – 8:35 5 minutes
1. FPT Agenda Preparation: PT/Health Canada Bilateral Agreements (All) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PT Ministers to discuss the Common Statement of Shared Principles bilateral agreements prior to conversation with the Federal Minister. 	8:35 – 8:50 15 minutes
2. Mental Health and Addictions (ON) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health Ministers will discuss mental health and addictions initiatives PTs are working on and how jurisdictions might work together to improve access to mental health and addiction services. 	8:50 – 9:15 25 minutes
3. Ongoing Efforts to Address Opioids (AB) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers will discuss the efforts and opportunities each PT, and the federal government, are considering or taking to address the opioids crisis. 	9:15 – 9:45 30 minutes
4. Health Equipment Procurement (MB) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As directed by Premiers, PT Health Ministers will explore further collaboration in procurement of high volume and specialized medical equipment. 	9:45 – 10:00 15 minutes
Break	10:00 – 10:15 15 minutes
5. Transparency Regarding Pharmaceutical Payments to Health Professionals (ON) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers will receive an update on consultations, recently introduced draft legislation, and next steps regarding Ontario's work towards improving transparency on medical industry payments provided to health professionals and organizations. Ministers will also receive an update on the National ePrescribing Initiative. 	10:15 – 10:30 15 minutes
6. Expensive Drugs for Rare Diseases (EDRD) (AB/BC/ON) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers will receive a report from the EDRD Working Group. 	10:30 – 10:45 15 minutes
7. pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA) (ON) <i>Discussion</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers will discuss the ongoing initiatives of the pCPA. 	10:45 – 11:00 15 minutes

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<p>8. Canadian Blood Services (SK)</p> <p><i>Discussion and Decision</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss the following CBS topics prior to the CBS Annual General Meeting (AGM): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 2018-19 Budget Process b. CBS National Strategy on Plasma c. Corporate Members Mandate Letter to CBS Board 	<p>11:00 – 11:45 45 minutes</p>
<p>9. Initial Review of Communique</p>	<p>11:45 – 12:00 15 minutes</p>
<p>Lunch</p>	<p>12:00 – 1:00pm 60 minutes</p>
<p>10. Pharmaceutical Drug Coverage: Children and Youth Report Back (ON)</p> <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ontario's report back to PT Ministers on progress made to improve access, affordability, and appropriateness for essential drugs for all children. 	<p>1:00 – 1:15 15 minutes</p>
<p>11. Universal Access to Medicines (ON)</p> <p><i>Discussion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PT Ministers will discuss next steps regarding Premiers' direction to engage the federal government on the timelines and costs associated with establishing a National Pharmacare Plan with a full federal partner, recognizing the different systems in place in each province and territory. 	<p>1:15 – 1:45 30 minutes</p>
<p>12. Review and Approve Communique</p>	<p>1:45 – 2:00 15 minutes</p>
<p>Break</p>	<p>2:00 – 2:15 15 minutes</p>
<p>Press Conference</p>	<p>2:15 – 3:00 45 minutes</p>

CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL HEALTH MINISTERS
OCTOBER 19-20, 2017
FEDERAL BUILDING, EDMONTON, AB

~ Itinerary ~

Thursday, October 19, 2017	
Ministers Petitpas Taylor and Hoffman Meeting with AB Regional Indigenous Leaders <i>Location: 10th Floor Federal Building, Mount Batten Room</i>	5:15 – 6:15 pm
Reception <i>Location: Art Gallery of Alberta, Ernest C. Manning Hall & Atrium</i>	7:00 – 8:00 pm
FPT Ministers' Private Dinner <i>Location: Art Gallery of Alberta, Terrace Café</i>	8:00 – 10:00 pm
All Delegates' Dinner <i>Location: Art Gallery of Alberta, Ernest C. Manning Hall & Atrium</i>	8:00 – 10:00 pm
Friday, October 20, 2017	
All Delegates' Breakfast <i>Location: 10th Floor Federal Building, Wales Room</i>	7:00 – 8:00 am
Private Breakfast Meeting with Canadian Labour Congress Co-Hosted by Ministers Hoffman and Hoskins <i>Location: City View Room, 2nd floor, Federal Building</i>	7:00 – 8:00 am
Meeting with National Indigenous Organizations (NIOs) <i>Location: 10th Floor Federal Building, Windsor Room</i>	8:30 – 10:00 am
FPT Ministers' Meeting <i>Location: 10th Floor Federal Building, Windsor Room</i>	10:10 – 2:00 pm
Intermission	2:00 – 2:15 pm
FPT Press Conference <i>Location: 2nd Floor Federal Building, Capital View Room</i>	2:15 – 2:45 pm

~ FPT Health Ministers' Agenda ~

Welcome and Opening Remarks (AB/CAN)	10:10 – 10:20 am
1. Ongoing Efforts to Address Opioids (BC/CAN)	10:20 – 11:00 am
<i>Discussion</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ministers will take stock of FPT progress on actions to address Canada's opioid crisis and will discuss potential next steps for targeted action.Ministers will discuss opportunities to advance response efforts, particularly in treatment and addressing stigma.	
2. Cannabis (CAN)	11:00 – 11:20 am
<i>Discussion</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ministers will receive an update and discuss ongoing FPT collaboration on the development and implementation of the <i>Cannabis Act</i> and regulatory framework, including health sector implications.	
3. Shared Health Priorities (AB/CAN)	11:20 – 11:45 am
<i>Discussion</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ministers will discuss their current priorities for mental health and addictions and home and community care.Ministers will also discuss the proposed approach to establishing bilateral agreements and receive an update on the Canadian Institute for Health Information's (CIHI) engagement with PTs and stakeholders on common indicators to support the Common Statement of Principles on Shared Health Priorities.	
4. Pharmaceuticals (ON/AB/BC/CAN)	11:45 – 12:05 pm
<i>Discussion</i>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ministers will discuss ongoing FPT collaboration to enhance the affordability, accessibility and appropriate use of prescription drugs.Ministers will discuss opportunities to collaborate towards harmonization of drug plan formularies.	
5. Initial Review of Communiqué (AB / CAN)	12:05 – 12:10 pm
FPT Ministers' Private Lunch	12:10 – 1:10 pm
<i>Location: 11th Floor Federal Building, Room 11001</i>	
All Delegates' Lunch	12:10 – 1:10 pm
<i>Location: 10th Floor Federal Building, Wales Room</i>	
Report Out from Private Lunch (AB/CAN)	1:10 – 1:15 pm

6. Transparency Regarding Pharmaceutical Payments to Health Professionals (ON/CAN) 1:15 – 1:25 pm

Discussion

- Ministers will discuss efforts to increase the transparency of the pharmaceutical industry regarding payments and gifts to healthcare professionals.
- The Ontario Minister will provide an update on the province's consultations and the federal Minister will provide an overview of the federal panel.

7. Healthy Eating Strategy (CAN) 1:25 – 1:45 pm

Discussion

- Ministers will receive a federal update on the progress of *Canada's Healthy Eating Strategy*, including progress on efforts to improve healthy eating information; strengthen labelling and claims; improve the nutrition quality of foods; protect vulnerable populations; and support increased access to and availability of nutritious foods.

8. Communiqué (AB/CAN) 1:45 – 1:55 pm

- Finalization

Paper Items:

9. Healthy Weights e-Report (NS/CAN)

- Ministers will be asked to endorse the *2017 Healthy Weights e-Report* being led through the FPT Public Health Network.

10. Concussion in Sport (CAN)

- Ministers will receive an update on harmonizing approaches to concussion prevention and management within Canada.

11. Federal Tobacco Control Strategy (CAN)

- Ministers will receive an update on the renewal of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy.

12. Joint Consortium on School Health (JCSH) 2017 Annual Report (PEI)

- Ministers will receive the JCSH Annual Report.

13. Pan-Canadian Framework and Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (NU/CAN)

- Ministers will receive an update on the completion of the pan-Canadian framework on antimicrobial resistance and the development of its associated action plan.

14. Closing Remarks (AB/CAN) 1:55 – 2:00 pm

~ Adjournment ~

Conference of Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Health

NEWS RELEASE – Conference of Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Health

NEWS – Edmonton, October 19, 2017

Provincial and territorial (P/T) health ministers met today in Edmonton, Alberta to discuss ongoing collaboration in key areas, including mental health and substance use, the opioid crisis, pharmaceutical drug coverage, innovation and health care funding challenges.

“This meeting provides an excellent opportunity to share information and knowledge, work together on common goals and set a path forward in serving the health care needs of all Canadians,” said Sarah Hoffman, Alberta's Minister of Health, who chaired the meeting. “I'm proud to be hosting these discussions on traditional Treaty 6 territory and look forward to continued collaboration with my colleagues, as we work together to ensure health care delivery across our jurisdictions is responsive to the needs of all Canadians, now and into the future.

Throughout the day, P/T ministers shared their successes and challenges as they continue to transform health care and find innovative solutions to the diverse health demands in each jurisdiction.

Federal, provincial and territorial bilateral agreements

P/Ts are beginning negotiations with the federal government on bilateral agreements, except Quebec which has an asymmetrical agreement, for targeted funding for home and community care and mental health and addictions. Ministers discussed the need to ensure that the agreements provide appropriate flexibility to support the needs and priorities of different jurisdictions. Agreements must allow for the retention of funding for the full term of the *Common Statement of Principles on Shared Health Priorities*. Ministers also emphasized that the administrative and reporting requirements must be reasonable and proportional to the targeted funding contribution of the federal government, which is a small fraction of the amount P/Ts spend in these areas.

Mental health and addictions

The P/Ts recognize there is a growing and pressing need to strengthen mental health supports for all Canadians. Ministers agreed there is no health without mental health - mental health is as important as physical health - and concluded systems need to reflect this priority.

Health ministers shared information on the progress they have made to improve access to mental health and substance use services in their respective jurisdictions. Ministers agreed to continue to focus on system improvements of the mental health and substance use sector through improved coordination and integration of services at the community level, with an emphasis on prevention, promotion, and early intervention. Ministers also agreed to explore areas for collaboration to ensure systems that are equitable, accessible, high-performing and recovery-oriented. Ministers agree efforts must continue to reduce and eliminate stigma.

They discussed options to ensure health systems are accessible and culturally appropriate. In addition, P/Ts agree to work together to eliminate silos, address gaps, and provide early intervention and prevention. Increased support from the federal government is key to meeting the growing need for strong mental health and substance use services for families and individuals across the country.

This is an area of great need and additional funding from the federal government is required.

On-going efforts to address opioids

P/T ministers shared information on the strategies being used in their own jurisdictions, including: harm-reduction initiatives such as supervised consumption sites, wide accessibility to naloxone kits; updated physician training on the use of prescription opioids; prevention initiatives; enforcement and supply control; surveillance and analytics; and collaboration between social agencies, health professionals, law enforcement and government.

Ministers agree we need to ensure our systems are focused on the whole person by ensuring there are team-based care processes and culturally appropriate services in place to address pain management needs.

Discussion of the opioid crisis, experienced by many jurisdictions, raised issues concerning use of illegal drugs and the introduction of new substances into the illegal drug supply, as well as problematic prescription drug use and the burden it is having on Canadians, their families and their communities.

P/T ministers will meet with federal health minister Petipas Taylor tomorrow and have an opportunity to discuss the role the federal governments has in supporting P/T jurisdictions to prevent overdose deaths and support front-line care so they can safely deliver the care required to save lives and address the opioid crisis.

Health equipment procurement

Based on the success of the pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA), and as directed by premiers, P/T health ministers have begun to explore collaboration to procure high volume and specialized medical equipment.

Manitoba led discussions on the initial progress of P/Ts to collaborate to procure basic and specialized medical equipment.

Ministers agreed to a framework going forward and will be reporting back to premiers by May 31, 2018.

Transparency regarding pharmaceutical payments to health professionals

Ontario provided an update on consultations, recently introduced legislation and next steps regarding Ontario's work towards improving transparency on medical industry payments provided to health professionals and organizations. Discussions will continue with Health Canada tomorrow.

Ministers agree to continue to strengthen transparency and openness in health care to maintain Canadians' confidence that the care they receive is based on the best clinical evidence, and without undue influence from the medical industry. To further this goal, ministers directed officials to ensure that initiatives like e-prescribing continue to advance, and they are done so in a transparent manner to mitigate any potential conflicts of interest.

Drugs for rare diseases

Ministers also discussed the high cost of drugs for rare diseases and the work being done by the Drugs for Rare Diseases Working Group led by Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

pan-Canadian Pharmaceutical Alliance (pCPA)

The work of the pCPA was commended in lowering drug cost, increasing access to clinically-effective drugs, and aligning jurisdictional efforts and processes in drug negotiations. P/Ts are saving \$1.2 billion annually.

Universal access to medicines

Health ministers, as directed by the premiers this summer, agreed to define a national pharmacare plan, including a formulary, costs and timelines.

Québec is committed to working with other Canadian governments to address the challenges of the rising cost of medication, but coverage and drug listing decisions remains its sole responsibility.

Ministers continue to make significant progress on expanding universal access to medicines. Since the creation of the Pharmaceutical Working Group, all jurisdictions have taken steps to improve the affordability, accessibility and appropriate use of prescription drugs.

Ministers will engage in discussions about establishing a national pharmacare plan to ensure Canadians have access to the medications that keep them healthy with their federal counterpart during tomorrow's discussion, recognizing the different needs and systems in place in each P/T, as they prepare a report back to premiers.

Canadian Blood Services

Led by Saskatchewan, P/T ministers (except Quebec) discussed a variety of issues related to Canadian Blood Services, including the organization's proposed 2018-2021 Corporate Plan and a discussion of Canadian plasma supply.

With respect to addressing the issue of Canada's plasma supply, there was a diversity of opinions among the P/Ts in terms of approaches but there was consensus that immediate action is needed to improve and expand domestic plasma collection.

Federal, provincial and territorial health ministers' meeting

The P/T health ministers look forward to productive discussions tomorrow with federal health minister Petipras Taylor. The agenda focuses on creating more adaptable, innovative, affordable and sustainable health care systems for all Canadians.

Following the meeting, Manitoba will assume the role of chair of the P/T health ministers meeting and co-chair of the federal, provincial and territorial Health Ministers' Meeting.

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Conference of Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Health

NEWS RELEASE – FPT Health Ministers’ Meeting (HMM)

October 20, 2017 – Edmonton, AB

Today, federal, provincial and territorial (FPT) Ministers responsible for health concluded their meeting in Edmonton, Alberta.

Ministers held productive discussions on a number of health-related priorities, including efforts to address the overdose crisis, increase the accessibility and affordability of pharmaceuticals, and protect the health and safety of Canadians in relation to legalization and regulation of cannabis.

All jurisdictions continue efforts to implement important reforms and adapt their health care systems to an increased demand for health services and an aging population. All jurisdictions are also committed to improving access to home and community care, and mental health and addiction services.

Meeting with National Indigenous Organizations

Improving Indigenous health outcomes remains a key priority for Health Ministers. Before the commencement of today's meeting, Health Ministers met with leaders from National Indigenous Organizations to discuss their health priorities and opportunities to address gaps in Indigenous health outcomes. Provincial and territorial Health Ministers continue to work with their local Indigenous organizations.

Opioids and the Overdose Crisis

The overdose crisis continues to grow, with more than 2,800 apparent opioid-related deaths in Canada in 2016. Today, Ministers acknowledged that the issue is a national public health crisis and recognized the significant actions that have been undertaken to address it. Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to collaborate with health professionals, experts, and people with lived and living experience to advance actions that address the crisis. Actions discussed included addressing regulatory and other barriers to treatment, harm reduction measures, exploring new and innovative treatment options and alternative public health policies, sharing data and best practices, and reducing the stigma of problematic substance use. Ministers also discussed expanding federal regulatory exemptions and encouraging innovative measures to prevent overdoses and save lives.

Cannabis

On April 13, 2017, the Government of Canada introduced Bill C-45, the proposed Act respecting cannabis and amendments to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (the proposed Cannabis Act). This legislation would create a strict framework to control the production, distribution, sale and possession of cannabis in Canada.

FPT governments will continue to play a critical role to ensure the health and safety of Canadians, especially young Canadians. Ministers stressed the importance of early and ongoing public education as the federal initiative to legalize, regulate and restrict access to cannabis moves forward.

Shared Health Priorities – Home and Community Care and Mental Health and Addictions

In August 2017, FPT Health Ministers¹ endorsed the Common Statement of Principles on Shared Health Priorities, in which Health Ministers commit to working together to ensure health care systems continue to respond to the needs of Canadians in home and community care and mental health and addiction services in Canada.

Today, Ministers reinforced that the bilateral agreements will provide appropriate flexibility to support the needs and priorities of different jurisdictions. Health Ministers will work with the Canadian Institute for Health Information to develop a focused set of common indicators to demonstrate meaningful progress. These indicators will also recognize unique northern and remote circumstances.

FPT Collaboration on Pharmaceuticals

Health Ministers remain committed to supporting improvements to Canada's pharmaceutical systems in the three key areas of affordability, accessibility and appropriate use.

Health Ministers agreed that the current models for access to pharmaceuticals for Canadians are inadequate. Building on the work done to date by FPT governments to improve access to prescription drugs, Ministers instructed their officials to develop evidence-based options—with associated costs, a formulary, and implementation considerations—to pursue greater access to, and affordability of, prescription medications for all Canadians. Quebec is committed to working with other FPT governments to address the challenges of the rising cost of medication, but coverage and drug listing decisions remain its sole responsibility.

Healthy Living (Healthy Eating Strategy, 2017 e-Report on Healthy Weights, Concussions in Sport, and Federal Tobacco Control Strategy)

Adopting healthier behaviours at all ages is a key factor in preventing the onset of chronic health conditions and reducing complications for those already living with a chronic disease. Today, Health Ministers received an update on the federal government's *Healthy Eating Strategy*. Ministers discussed complementary efforts in provinces and territories and acknowledged regional concerns. Health Ministers endorsed the 2017 e-Report on Healthy Weights, as well as the Joint Consortium on School Health's annual report, which outlines work towards common objectives in education and health for children and youth. Furthermore, they received updates on the renewal of the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy and efforts to prevent and manage concussions in sport.

Quebec shares the general goals of these initiatives but intends to remain solely responsible for developing and implementing programs for promoting healthy living within its jurisdiction, while continuing to exchange information and expertise with other governments.

Pharmaceutical Industry Transparency

Canadians continue to receive some of the most professional care in the world. Following the example of other jurisdictions, Health Ministers are exploring options to strengthen transparency on the pharmaceutical industry's provision of payments to health care practitioners and organizations, so that Canadians are aware of these financial relationships and can make informed decisions about their health care.

Antimicrobial Resistance

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is one of the most serious global health threats facing the world today. Health Ministers agreed to continue to contribute to the concerted, multi-sectoral efforts to address AMR that are underway, including the development of an action plan to support the implementation of the *Pan-Canadian Framework on AMR* released earlier this year.

Footnotes

1. Recognizing the Government of Quebec's desire to exercise its own responsibilities within the health field and to fully assume the planning, organizing and managing of health services, including mental health and addiction services and home and community care, the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec agreed on March 10, 2017, to an asymmetrical arrangement distinct from this Statement of Principles and based on the asymmetrical agreement of September 2004. The Government of Quebec will continue to report to Quebecers on the use of all health funding and will continue to collaborate with other FPT governments by sharing information and best practices.