Meet with your MP about universal public pharmacare

Why meet with your Member of Parliament (MP)?

We have a unique opportunity to win a universal public pharmacare program in Canada. The federal government has promised to implement a national pharmacare program by the end of 2023. Extensive research (including the Liberals’ own Hoskins Report) documents the money- and life-saving benefits of universal public pharmacare. MPs need to hear from their constituents to ensure they follow through with their promise.

Setting up the meeting

- To find your MP’s phone number and email, go to http://www.ourcommons.ca/Parliamentarians/en/members and enter your postal code.
- Call or email your MP’s office to request a meeting. If they don’t respond at first, be persistent!

Prepping for the meeting

- Once a date and time for the meeting has been set, share the details with your Regional Organizer. They may be able to connect you with other constituents to join you at the meeting.
- If you have a group for your MP meeting, set a time to connect with your group in advance to go over your plan for the meeting and assign roles. Meeting on Zoom may be easiest.
- Create an outline of what you’d like to say at the MP meeting. You can refer to this list of resources to help strengthen your argument for universal public pharmacare. Remember to keep your comments concise, as you’ll need time on the agenda to listen to your MP.
- Encourage group members to think of personal stories about the importance of pharmacare.
- Practice running through the meeting and keep track of time.

At the meeting

- Introduce yourself and thank your MP for taking the time to meet.
- Explain the issue and why it’s important to you. Sharing personal stories can strengthen your presentation and show how pharmacare will directly improve people’s lives.
- Connect the issue to voters in your riding. Which constituents is pharmacare important to?
- Ask your MP to support NDP Health Critic Don Davies’ Canada Pharmacare Act (Bill C-340) and take notes on their response using the worksheet on the next page.
- Leave a copy of the campaign briefing note with your MP.
- Take a photo of your group and share the photo on social media with the hashtag #PharmacareNow.

After the meeting

- Share notes from the meeting with your Regional Organizer.
- Follow up with a thank-you note to your MP and restate anything they committed to in the meeting.
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Ask your MP to support the [Canada Pharmacare Act](https://www.parl.gc.ca/34umann/Act-Text/Act-Text_E-340/index-eng.aspx) (Bill C-340).

Take notes on their responses using the column on the right.

| If they say no or won’t commit, ask them why not. |  |
| If they say yes, ask them to bring it up at their next regional caucus meeting |  |
| If they say yes, ask them to put it in their next constituent newsletter |  |
| If they say yes, take a photo from the meeting with a Public Pharmacare Now sign and post it on social media with the hashtag #PharmacareNow |  |
| If they say they can’t commit because it’s a provincial matter, remind them that national pharmacare is a federal responsibility |  |