

Arthritis in British Columbia – A letter to British Columbia New Democratic Party

Email sent out date: September 28, 2020

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Dear Premier Horgan,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in British Columbia.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking British Columbia's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 700,000 B.C. residents living with arthritis.

In the Minister of Health's most recent mandate letter, the NDP laid out its health policy priorities:

- Prioritize the provision of team-based primary care by establishing urgent family-care centres across the province.
- Improve rural health services and expand the medical travel allowance for those who must travel for care.
- Work with Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors to improve and strengthen services to ensure seniors receive dignified and quality care.
- Invest in more paramedics.
- Work to reduce wait times and implement province-wide co-ordination to manage and actively monitor waitlists.

As part of this commitment, ACE is interested your response to our attached survey titled: "[Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in British Columbia](#)".

Arthritis has devastating and debilitating effects on the lives of one in five B.C. residents. Within a generation, the number of British Columbians with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – is expected to significantly increase. Two-thirds of people living with arthritis in B.C. are under the age of 65. It's common among athletes and those with physically demanding jobs. In fact, arthritis is the leading cause of work disability in B.C. and the rest of Canada.

To effectively treat and manage arthritis, the next elected British Columbia government must improve the level of arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn President, Arthritis Consumer Experts

Email: koehn@jointhealth.org

Office: 604-974-1355

Arthritis in British Columbia – A letter to the British Columbia Liberal Party

Email sent out date: September 28, 2020

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Dear Mr. Wilkinson,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in British Columbia.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking British Columbia's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 700,000 B.C. residents living with arthritis.

ACE is interested the B.C. Liberal Party's response to our attached survey titled: "[Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in British Columbia](#)".

Arthritis has devastating and debilitating effects on the lives of one in five B.C. residents. Within a generation, the number of British Columbians with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – is expected to significantly increase. Two-thirds of people living with arthritis in B.C. are under the age of 65. It's common among athletes and those with physically demanding jobs. In fact, arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions are the leading cause of work disability in B.C. and the rest of Canada.

To effectively treat and manage arthritis, the next elected British Columbia government must improve the level of arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

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Arthritis in British Columbia – A letter to the British Columbia Green Party

Email sent out date: September 28, 2020

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Dear Ms. Furstenau,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in British Columbia.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking British Columbia's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 700,000 B.C. residents living with arthritis.

The B.C. Green Party has stated that government's #1 job is the health and wellbeing of B.C. residents. As part of this commitment, ACE is interested your response to our attached survey titled: "[Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in British Columbia](#)".

Arthritis has devastating and debilitating effects on the lives of one in five B.C. residents. Within a generation, the number of British Columbians with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – is expected to significantly increase. Two-thirds of people living with arthritis in B.C. are under the age of 65. It's common among athletes and those with physically demanding jobs. In fact, arthritis and musculoskeletal conditions are the leading cause of work disability in B.C. and the rest of Canada.

To effectively treat and manage arthritis, the next elected British Columbia government must improve the level of arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

We look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,

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