

**ACE Arthritis Survey – A letter to (name)**  
**Email sent out date: March 28, 2025**

**Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts**

Dear (Party),

Six million Canadians living with arthritis want to know what is your plan for arthritis.

Arthritis is the most common chronic disease in Canada and affects more people than heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer, and dementia combined. Despite the misconception that it is only a disease of older adults, two-thirds of Canadian residents with arthritis are younger than 65.

The more than 100 types of the disease contribute to a wide range of health challenges that collectively cost billions of dollars every year. The impact of arthritis extends far beyond the individual – it's felt by workplaces, healthcare systems, and the economy. As the leading cause of work disability, arthritis contributes to a wide range of health challenges that collectively cost billions of dollars every year in direct health care costs and indirect costs to the economy related to lost employment, sick leave, and absenteeism.

Timely and equitable access to arthritis diagnosis, care and treatment must be a top priority for the next federal government. Without intervention, more than 9 million Canadians are expected to be living with arthritis by 2040.

**ACE Arthritis Survey for Federal Election Parties**

In the lead up to the federal election on April 28, 2025, Arthritis Consumer Experts is asking Canadian federal political parties to share their perspectives on how to meet the needs of the one in six Canadian residents living with arthritis ([see attached survey](#)).

We look forward to learning how your Party, if elected, will work with the arthritis community to make arthritis a top health priority so that everyone living with arthritis in Canada has equitable access to timely, safe, quality care.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn, President, Arthritis Consumer Experts  
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