



April 14, 2009

BC NDP
5367 Kingsway
Burnaby, BC V5H 2G1

Re: Arthritis Consumer Experts' Party questionnaire—BC Provincial Election 2009

Dear Sir/Madam:

Arthritis Consumer Experts is a national organization based in British Columbia, providing research-based education, support, and advocacy to people with arthritis across Canada.

Significant inequities exist between services being provided to British Columbians living with arthritis and those living with other serious chronic diseases. In all areas of the healthcare system, from health promotion strategies to delivery of treatment and care, arthritis is vastly underserved.

People with arthritis—more than 600,000 voters— are looking to government for leadership on the arthritis crisis in British Columbia. As arthritis is currently a significantly underserved disease group, the next BC government has a tremendous opportunity to make British Columbia the best place in Canada to live with arthritis.

With this in mind, we would very much appreciate it if you would take the time to answer the enclosed questions about your party's position on arthritis prevention, treatment, and care in BC.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cheryl Koehn".

Cheryl Koehn
Person with rheumatoid arthritis
President, Arthritis Consumer Experts