

Overview of Request for Budget 2018

Measurable change and improved productivity by 2021

Ask:

Immediately adopt a Canadian Strategy for Diabetes aimed at achieving measurable improvements in the prevention and treatment of diabetes and reducing the burden of it on Canadians.

As part of this Strategy, the government should embrace the goal that, by 2021, to mark the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin by Canadians, Canada will be a world leader in diabetes prevention, treatment and research. Specifically, Canada should adopt a “90-90-90” target for diabetes such that, by 2021 90% of those at risk of or living with diabetes will be aware of their status, 90% of those will be receiving treatment and 90% of those will have improving health. Such a target has been used with great success to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and consequently is being considered for other communicable diseases.

A 90-90-90 target to halt the diabetes epidemic:



Link to government policy:

Government's commitment to helping the middle class; jobs; the economy; workplace productivity; affordable healthcare; Indigenous health

Where the funds could be sourced:

Diabetes Canada estimates that diabetes will cost Canada's health care system \$3.5 billion in direct costs in 2017 alone and these costs will increase by nearly 40% to just under \$5 billion within a decade. By improving the care of people with diabetes, these costs can be minimized and redistributed toward prevention initiatives. In addition, Diabetes Canada recommends a levy on sugary drinks, which can generate \$1.7 billion per annum, which can be used to help offset the costs of a Canadian Strategy for Diabetes.

Link to submission:

<http://bit.ly/CdnDiabetesPBS2018>

Partnerships or expected stakeholder support:

Diabetes Canada is collaborating on this initiative with a broad range of stakeholders, including various hospitals, provincial and federal ministries of Health, Diabetes Action Canada, indigenous diabetes groups, the CMA, CIHI and CIHR.

Anticipated ROI:

Over the next 10 years, diabetes will cost Canada's health care system more than \$40 billion in direct costs, and many billion dollars more in lost productivity due to illness and early death. By better preventing and managing this disease, Canada can avert many of the costs associated with complications of diabetes. While detailed modeling will be completed in 2018 as part of next steps, we can anticipate that the costs of such a strategy would be fully offset by reduced health care costs within 5 years.

How quickly outcomes of investment can be felt:

Immediately.

Additional considerations:

- Since 2013, Canada has been without a diabetes strategy or specific target. In 2013, the Office of the Auditor General examined the implementation of the CDS and criticized its implementation based on a lack of coordination, performance measures, and specific outcomes. In 2013, the World Health Organization published the WHO Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases, which featured a goal of halting the rise of diabetes by 2025. If Canada were to adopt a 90-90-90 target for diabetes, it would be well on its way to implementing the WHO's Global Action Plan.
- What Canada is doing now is not working. Currently, one in three Canadians is living with diabetes or prediabetes. Between 2000 and 2010, the prevalence of diabetes in Canada doubled from 1.2 million to 2.4 million. By 2010, one person was being diagnosed with diabetes in Canada on average every 3 minutes. And both the prevalence and costs of diabetes are projected to grow by 40% in the next decade.



1 in 3 Canadians – **11 million** – have diabetes or prediabetes today



Another Canadian is diagnosed **every 3 minutes**



1.5 million Canadians have type 2 diabetes – and don't know it



6 million Canadians live with prediabetes – half will develop type 2 diabetes if nothing is done

- A 90-90-90 target makes sense because:
 - Diabetes risk awareness can prevent people from developing diabetes.
 - Early diagnosis of diabetes improves long term health outcomes.
 - Diabetes treatment averts complications and death
 - Diabetes treatment saves money
- Benefits of a renewed Canadian Strategy for Diabetes could include:
 - More people who are at risk of developing diabetes would be able to know their status and take preventative measures, thereby avoiding developing the disease
 - More people who have diabetes would become aware of their status sooner, minimizing complications and maximizing opportunities to reverse or slow the pace of the disease
 - More people living with diabetes would be receiving specialized counselling and care, thereby experiencing fewer complications and adverse health outcomes
 - Fewer people with diabetes developing serious complications like heart disease, kidney disease or amputations, which in turn reduces significant costs to the health care system
- In late 2014, The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) adopted a galvanizing new target to end the HIV/AIDS epidemic – 90-90-90. This target set out that, by 2020, 90% of all people living with HIV will know their HIV status, 90% of those will receive sustained antiretroviral therapy and 90% of those will have viral suppression. When this three-part target is achieved, at least 73% of all people living with HIV worldwide will be virally suppressed and the epidemic will be effectively over.

About Diabetes Canada:

Diabetes Canada is a registered charity that helps the 11 million Canadians living with diabetes or prediabetes. We lead the fight against diabetes by helping those affected by diabetes to live healthy lives, preventing the onset and consequences of diabetes, and investing in research toward discovering a cure. Our Diabetes Charter for Canada sets out a vision that all Canadians with diabetes have the supports needed to achieve their full health potential.

For more information:

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