



**A Physician Human Resource
Strategy for Canada**

TASK FORCE TWO

**Une stratégie en matière d'effectifs
médicaux pour le Canada**

GROUPE DE TRAVAIL DEUX

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
PHYSICIAN HUMAN RESOURCES** **CONFÉRENCE NATIONALE SUR
LES EFFECTIFS MÉDICAUX**

January 22-24, 2006 OTTAWA

du 22 au 24 janvier 2006 OTTAWA

BACKGROUND

National Conference on Physician Human Resources

Physician Shortage: A Complex Challenge

As the work of Task Force Two began some three years ago, the shortage of physicians in Canada was already putting severe strains on the delivery of health care in this country. Members of the Task Force Two Steering Committee knew that solving a problem that had evolved over decades would not be accomplished in weeks or even months. The work had to be thorough, informed, consultative and carefully considered. Notwithstanding the urgent needs in certain sectors and regions, Task Force Two embarked on a process of finding solutions for the future.

Giving Strategies a Reality Check

The National Conference on Physician Human Resources will take place at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa from January 22-24, 2006 and will be the culmination of three years of cooperation, consultation and collaboration by Task Force Two.

The workshops and plenary sessions have been designed to provide a truly national forum in which health care human resource planners, medical associations and organizations, and all levels of government can discuss openly and share ideas on the broad strategic directions developed by Task Force Two over the course of its three year mandate. The success of the Conference will rely on the full and active participation of widely representative organizations, each of which can contribute its unique expertise and perspective to the discussions.

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A Collaborative Process

Invited leaders in Canada's health care community will review the strategic directions Task Force Two has proposed on the basis of its research and analysis over the past 36 months. By lending their organization's voice, they will have an opportunity to collectively set priorities and consider the conditions that will lead to successful physician human resource planning in the future. The Conference workshops will provide a forum for an in-depth discussion based on five themes:

- 1. Education and Training**
Delegates will consider strategies that will support how education and training of physicians and other health care providers across the continuum of learning can best meet the needs of Canadians.
- 2. Interprofessionalism Workshop**
Delegates will discuss strategies that are conducive to interprofessional collaborative practices whereby physicians and other health care providers can have clearly identified and valued roles.
- 3. Licensure, Regulatory Issues and Liability Workshop**
In this workshop, delegates will affirm and prioritize strategies that encourage complementary regulatory decisions in support of patient-centered practice and provider mobility.
- 4. Recruitment and Retention Workshop**
Delegates will affirm and prioritize strategies that promote a needs-based approach regarding health human resource planning in Canada.
- 5. Infrastructure and Technology Workshop**
Delegates will affirm which strategies can best assist physicians and other health care professionals deliver timely access to quality health services for Canadians.

Participants in the workshops will have the opportunity to discuss three key aspects of each of the five theme areas:

- a) Affirmation and prioritization of strategic directions and core strategies
- b) Confirmation of emerging priorities and engagement of responsible parties
- c) Directions, convergence and formulas for success

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Following the Conference

The weeks following the National Conference will be important to the overall success of Task Force Two. The members of the Steering Committee will review the input received during the two days of the Conference. They will refine the strategic directions and planning tools accordingly and will consider success factors that will ensure the strategies are implemented.

Finally, participating organizations of Task Force Two will work together to find ways to assure Canadians the continuance of the efforts begun over the past three years. Important directions have been set and encouraging momentum is in place now. The final challenge will be to bridge the gap between direction and timely implementation.

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For more information about Task Force Two and the research reports the group has published, go to www.physicianhr.ca. For a copy of the Conference program or to request an interview please contact:

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