



June 4, 2025

Hon. Jill McKnight, PC, MP
Minister of Veterans Affairs

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the Canadian Association of Naturopathic Doctors (CAND) and our over 2,500 members across Canada, I am pleased to extend our sincere congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Veterans Affairs.

The CAND would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your team to discuss your priorities and how Naturopathic Doctors (NDs) can contribute to achieving them.

We believe everyone deserves equal access to healthcare options that support their well-being. Veterans frequently seek ND care for pain management, mental and emotional support, as NDs utilize a diverse range of therapies to address conditions like post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, sleep disturbances, opioid dependencies, and chronic pain.

During the last government, Veterans Affairs Canada began covering naturopathic consultations and assessments by approved NDs, a decision welcomed by the CAND as a step towards equitable access to wellness-focused healthcare for veterans.

For 70 years, the CAND has worked to further the naturopathic medical profession across Canada through advocacy, awareness and support of NDs. NDs are important partners in health and key members of comprehensive healthcare teams, providing safe, effective, and potentially cost-saving care. Our members are highly trained healthcare professionals. They pursued an undergraduate degree before entering a four-year, full-time, naturopathic medical program accredited by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education and have passed an entry-to-practice qualifying examination (NPLEX).

The CAND advocates on behalf of the naturopathic profession federally, supports scientific research, and promotes the regulation of all healthcare professionals to ensure public safety. We are committed to raising awareness of the training, skills, and benefits of naturopathic medicine among the public, corporations, insurance companies, and the federal government.

I would be pleased to schedule a meeting at your earliest convenience to discuss these matters further and demonstrate how the CAND's work aligns with your government's priorities.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Gemma Beierback
Chief Executive Officer