



June 4, 2025

Hon. Marjorie Michel, PC, MP
Minister of Health

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 Health.

The CAND would welcome the opportunity to meet with you and your team to discuss your government's healthcare priorities and how Naturopathic Doctors (NDs) can contribute to achieving them. We are particularly interested in sharing how NDs are already helping fill the gaps in primary care across Canada. Expanding access to qualified NDs, will increase health equity, and has proven potential to improve health outcomes and reduce healthcare costs.

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, who often work in collaboration with other healthcare providers. 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 believes everyone deserves equal access to healthcare options that support their well-being. Evidence increasingly supports the integration of naturopathic care as means to achieve improved patient outcomes; however, access to NDs is currently restricted to people who can afford private healthcare or have separate health benefit plans. These economic barriers to healthcare marginalize the most vulnerable.

We 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