**SUBJECT:** Health Research, Innovation and Care in Crisis – Support needed in Budget 2023!

Dear [recipient name – see list of key stakeholders [here](https://rc-rc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Fall-Winter-2022-Advocacy-Campaign_Targets.pdf)],

As we approach the spring tabling of the 2023 federal budget, I—as a Canadian and a strong advocate for science and research—am calling on the Government of Canada to take action to protect the health of our citizens and ensure that our health research and innovation ecosystem is resilient and prepared to take on the health challenges of today and tomorrow.

1. Canada’s health care system is in crisis and needs the best available science to facilitate highly-effective responses now. **All levels of government need to work collaboratively and listen to the voices of our health care experts and scientists to address the immediate crisis and ensure the long-term sustainability of the health system.**
2. Underinvestment in health research is not an option. Canada is not competitive among its global peers, nor has it been for several years. Canada is the only nation in the G7 whose R&D spending as a percentage of GDP shrank over the past two decades, and the gap continues to widen. **The Government of Canada needs to double research funding to the Tri-Agency and commit to an annual increase that will keep pace with inflation and global benchmarks. This increase in funding must maintain a balance with investments in infrastructure and people.**
3. A well-supported research workforce that reflects the fullness of humanity and human potential is the foundation of a vibrant, innovative and sustainable research system. **The Government of Canada needs to better support and enable a flourishing and diversified talent base in Canada, with a focus on Indigenous researchers, Black and people of colour researchers, early-career researchers, and other underrepresented and equity-deserving groups.**
4. Realizing the full health, social and economic potential of Canada’s health research and innovation ecosystem and ensuring a more prepared, resilient and sustainable ecosystem in the future requires a strong, active and engaged life sciences industry. **The Government of Canada needs to delay the implementation of the new draft guidelines published by the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board to allow for meaningful consultation with industry, patient groups and other stakeholders.**

I appreciate the work that you and your staff are currently undertaking to improve health research and innovation in Canada and I hope that you will ensure that Canada does everything it can in 2023 to move towards a more thriving health innovation ecosystem for the future.

Sincerely,

[your name]