



Underinvestment in health research is killing us.

A message from Canada's health research and innovation community

Dear Canada,

Health research saves lives and diminishes suffering. It makes our health system more resilient. It helps us prepare for the future.

But our ability to make a difference for Canadians is slipping away. We could and should be doing so much more.

Governments in the United States, Europe and Asia invest far more in health research because they recognize that these investments increase their ability to respond to emerging health threats, address serious diseases and foster a vibrant and healthy society.

Underinvesting in health research is driving away our talented researchers because they can't get funding to conduct their research in Canada.

Discoveries that might otherwise have happened in Canada will happen elsewhere, ultimately delaying Canadians' access to life-saving innovations.

Underinvesting in health research threatens our health security.

We remain vulnerable to a never-ending cycle of health crises.

Sincerely,

Research Canada's Board of Directors, on behalf of the more than 100 Members from the following sectors: Academic—hospitals, universities, medical schools and colleges; Private—biopharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device companies and; Voluntary—health charities, scientific societies, networks of excellence and patient organizations.

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But it doesn't have to be this way.

Canadians know that health research holds the promise for future cures even when it doesn't bring immediate benefits. COVID-19 vaccines didn't appear out of thin air. They were built on decades of painstaking health research.

Let's not risk being left without Canadian health researchers to fight the next emerging pathogen, protect our mental health or to be at the forefront of fighting diseases like cancer, heart disease, diabetes and arthritis.

Health research is a promise for a better future.

This spring, the Government of Canada will put forward its 2023 Federal Budget.

Reach out to your Member of Parliament and make sure Canada closes the growing funding gap in health research for the benefit of every person living in Canada.

Let's keep the promise of health research alive.