



The Rt. Hon. Mark Carney
Prime Minister of Canada
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON
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Delivered via email

May 20, 2025

Dear Prime Minister Carney,

On behalf of our members and the skin health and wound care community, Wounds Canada extends warm congratulations to you on being elected as Canada's 24th Prime Minister, and we look forward to working with you and your team in building a healthier Canada.

As Canada's leading advocate in skin health and wound care, Wounds Canada is drawing your attention to a 12-billion-dollar-a-year health and quality-of-life issue that will affect everyone in Canada at some point in their lives. On any day, there are hundreds of thousands of Canadians living with or at risk for serious wounds—including pressure injuries (bed sores), diabetic foot ulcers and complex surgical incisions. The accompanying infographic highlights key costs and provides a snapshot of the issue across the health system.

As we approach the new session of Parliament, and the Speech from the Throne, Wounds Canada urges attention to key health-care issues affecting Canadians, such as bolstering access to primary care, maximizing the contributions of all health-care professionals and supporting interprofessional health-care teams. The increasing need for skin health and wound care is best addressed at the primary care level through prevention and early detection involving practitioners with wound care knowledge working to full scope and using an interprofessional team model.

Experience and research have demonstrated that when governments step in to support excellence in skin health and wound care everyone benefits. Every dollar invested in skin health and wound care reduces suffering, saves lives and delivers measurable returns for Canada. These returns include improved health in people at risk for or with wounds; less time away from

family, work and play; less strain on health systems and a better work environment for our essential health-care providers.

Government awareness of this issue is particularly important now as we enter an era of supply and resource challenges given the global response to changes in trade practices. Such changes could risk access to wound care supplies and services essential to skin health and wound care. Wounds Canada believes Canadians requiring wound care should not be disadvantaged in any way due to the global trade disruptions.

Wounds Canada recommends government invest in:

1. Skin health and wound care as a priority integral to our national publicly funded not-for-profit health system where standards of skin health and wound care are equitably accessible to all Canadians
2. Training in skin health and wound care for health-care professionals and providers across all sectors
3. Full access to wound care supplies, services and products to meet the care needs of Canadians and their providers

With \$12 billion being spent annually on wound care in Canada, this issue must be taken seriously. Wounds Canada is prepared to work together with all levels of government to effectively address skin health and wound care issues for a healthier Canada.

Best regards,



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WOUNDS IN CANADA:

A Hidden Epidemic



Dear Canadians,
When you **vote** in this election,
please consider . . .



CANADA WOUND CARE SPENDING:
\$12.0 billion
DIRECT COSTS

- 50% of nursing visits involve wound care delivery in the community
- 35% of persons receiving community care have a chronic wound
- 26% of persons in any health-care setting have a pressure injury

Preventing and treating wounds must be a **priority** for policy makers.



Patients and their families need to know that skin health and wounds will affect them all at some point in their lives.

Funding skin health and wound care will **save Canada money** in the long run.



Health-care professionals need **training** to learn and implement best practices.



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