

Minister of Health



Ministre de la Santé

Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9



Good morning everyone, and welcome to the Canadian Society for International Health Breakfast, in honour of World Hepatitis Day.

I regret I cannot be here with you today. I would like to personally recognize and express my appreciation for the positive impact community organizations like yours have made so far in building hepatitis awareness.

As Minister of Health, I am keenly aware of the seriousness of viral hepatitis along with the burden carried by people who are infected.

Because of that, our Government has renewed the Hepatitis C Prevention, Support and Research Program in 2008, with ongoing annual funding of \$10.65 million.

These funds were allocated to initiatives that would help improve population health, decrease health disparities and reduce pressure on the healthcare system.

The Public Health Agency of Canada will continue monitoring the burden and risk factors associated with Hepatitis B and C on an ongoing basis.

The Agency will also continue to partner with Health Canada and Statistics Canada in implementing the Canadian Health Measures Survey.

This survey will help provide important information on the prevalence of Hepatitis B and C infections across Canada.

The resulting data analysis will help shape and form public health actions and policy.

In closing, please accept my sincere best wishes, and thank you again for your initiative in marking World Hepatitis Day.

Leona Aglukkaq
Minister of Health
Government of Canada