



The Honourable Mark Holland, PC, MP  
Minister of Health  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0A6

August 24, 2023

Dear Minister Holland,

I am writing to you in my role as the Chief Executive Officer of the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists (CSHP). I extend my warmest greetings to you as you assume the pivotal role of Minister of Health in our great nation. On behalf of CSHP, I am writing this letter to introduce our organization and convey our commitment to working with you on promoting the highest standards of healthcare and patient well-being in Canada.

Our membership comprises a diverse and accomplished group of 3,800+ hospital pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy students. We deliver information sharing, national advocacy, facilitation of research, dissemination of best practices, conferences, education, recognition of excellence, and accreditation of pharmacy residency programs across Canada. CSHP is an active participant on the Health Canada Health Products Supply Chain Advisory Committee, Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee on Drug Shortages, Tier Assignment Committee and more. We appreciated meeting with Assistant Deputy Minister Stefania Trombetti at the August 22 roundtable on improving access to health products in Canada.

Key areas of focus for CSHP include:

- **Advocacy:** We engage with policymakers, healthcare authorities, and regulatory bodies to advocate for policies that enhance the accessibility, safety, and efficacy of drug therapy.
- **Patient Safety:** We are deeply committed to promoting patient safety, working towards reducing medication errors, and enhancing medication management practices in healthcare facilities.
- **Residency accreditation of hospital pharmacy Year 1 and Year 2 residencies in Canada.**
- **Education:** CSHP provides an array of educational opportunities, including workshops, conferences, and webinars, to ensure our members stay up-to-date with the latest developments in pharmacy practice.
- **Research:** CSHP publishes the *Canadian Journal of Hospital Pharmacy* and conducts the Hospital Pharmacy in Canada Survey of all hospitals in Canada. These and other research initiatives drive evidence-based practice and advance pharmaceutical care.
- **Collaboration:** CSHP encourages collaboration among healthcare professionals, fostering interprofessional and interprovincial relationships to optimize patient care and outcomes.



As we enter this new era, we appreciate the opportunity to continue our collaboration with your office and the Ministry of Health in shaping policies that positively impact healthcare delivery across the country. We bring expertise in drug shortage management, first-hand experience in national Pharmacare strategic issues, and active trailblazing for sustainability in pharmaceuticals. We believe that by joining forces, we can further enhance patient care, streamline healthcare processes, and drive improvements in the overall health and well-being of our fellow Canadians. Our dedication to serving the public interest aligns closely with your vision for a healthier and more prosperous nation, and we look forward to contributing resources towards this shared goal.

Once again, congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Health.

Sincerely,

Jody Ciufu, MBA  
CEO  
Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists