

Press Release

Wait Time Alliance Launches *My Wait Time Story* Campaign

Ottawa, Sept. 3, 2014 - How has a long wait for health care affected you? The Wait Time Alliance (WTA) is asking Canadians to create a video and share their wait time story. On September 23, the WTA is taking the cause to Parliament Hill and wants our political leaders to understand the effects unnecessary waiting for medical care has on Canadians by hearing their stories directly.

"We look forward to bringing the voice of patients to the forefront to show our elected representatives that addressing wait times remains a critical factor if we want to improve our health system," said Dr. Chris Simpson, Chair, Wait Time Alliance.

2014 marks the end of the 10-year Health Accord in which federal, provincial and territorial governments committed to reducing wait times in five initial areas. But medical wait times remain as much of an issue today as they were in 2004. The expiry of the Accord brings an opportunity to re-visit the federal government's crucial role in health care.

Video submissions must:

- be no longer than 3 minutes in length.
- demonstrate the challenges faced by you and your loved ones navigating the system in a respectful manner.
- offer any suggestions you might have as to how to improve the process to benefit those patients that follow in your path.
- protect your privacy and the privacy of others. Give only your first name and province, nothing more. Do not relay other patient stories.
- not infringe upon or violate any laws or third party rights, including, but not limited to, copyright, patent, and trademark.

Click here for the video submission page: <http://www.waittimealliance.ca/my-wait-time-story/>

The Wait Time Alliance (WTA) is a partnership comprised of the Canadian Anesthesiologists' Society, the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians, the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, the Canadian Association of General Surgeons, the Canadian Association of Nuclear Medicine, the Canadian Association of Paediatric Surgeons, the Canadian Association of Radiation Oncology, the Canadian Association of Radiologists, the Canadian Cardiovascular Society, the Canadian Geriatrics Society, the Canadian Medical Association, the Canadian Ophthalmological Society, the Canadian Orthopaedic Association, the Canadian Psychiatric Association, the Canadian Rheumatology Association, the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons, the College of Family Physicians of Canada, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada, and a Patient Advisor.



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