

August 20, 2020

Dear members,

I'm reaching out today to share our support for you, our colleagues in Alberta, where unfortunately the relationship with government continues to break down.

These developments are especially troubling as physicians and patients worldwide are struggling in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Coordination and collaboration are so important right now to effectively manage the virus and keep Canadians safe.

Know that we share your concerns and are taking the following actions in coordination with the Alberta Medical Association (AMA):

- We've come out publicly on several occasions to denounce the actions of your government and support your call for a fair negotiations process.
- I've personally raised my concerns with the breakdown in negotiations with federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu, both one-on-one and as part of the joint meeting we held recently with the presidents of the provincial/territorial medical associations.
- We've doubled our initial financial commitment to help support the AMA's legal, research and advocacy efforts.
- Most recently, we wrote [an open letter of support](#) to Alberta physicians and are asking our colleagues and members of the public to send a copy to the Alberta government as part of a new letter writing campaign.
- And we're working with all the provincial/territorial medical associations on more ways we can lend our support.

Thank you for continuing to be there for your patients and for one another during this challenging time. If you have questions or ideas for how we can best support you, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Member Service Centre at [memberservicecentre@cma.ca](mailto:memberservicecentre@cma.ca) or toll-free at 1-888-855-2555 (weekdays from 8 am to 8 pm ET).

Standing with you,

Dr. Sandy Buchman