

Medicare

#5 FOR-PROFIT WON'T DELIVER

Facts and Insights

Some politicians and their rich friends in the private medical lobby are trying to convince us we'd be better off if governments partnered with private for-profit companies to deliver health care. They want us to believe that a system that's publicly funded but delivered privately and for-profit would magically provide us with more and better services for less money. We must not fall into this trap.

Private for-profit delivery does not relieve pressure on the public system; instead, it drains funds, staff and other resources from the public system. This drives up costs, resulting in longer waiting lists and poorer care. We have the research to prove it.

Private for-profit delivery costs more, reduces accessibility and provides lower quality services. For-profit health care corporations are motivated by the growth of market share, revenues, earnings and profits for shareholders. By its very nature, for-profit health care drains funds out of the system, away from quality care, and into the pockets of investors. For-profit companies must spend health dollars on investor relations, marketing, executive compensation including stock options, and political contributions. Costs which the public system doesn't have to bear.

Obvious Conclusions

Public Private Partnerships lead to an expensive, inefficient and inequitable health care system.

Governments, starting with Ottawa, should provide the public system with adequate funding.

*Our Medicare celebrates
the triumph of solid values
AND sensible economics!*

TAKE Action

Speak out for the good of your health. No one can do everything—but every single one of us can do something.

URGE the federal government to implement the Romanow Report:
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READ the National Union research report "**International Case Studies of For-Profit Health Care Reform: Learning From Others' Mistakes**" and other health care information: www.nupge.ca
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CONNECT with your neighbours and get involved in a local Medicare campaign; get fresh information; get email addresses for your MP and your MLA; link up with a trade union:
www.savemedicare.com
www.healthcoalition.ca
www.clc-ctc.ca

ENCOURAGE your friends and co-workers to find out more.

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* Also available in French

