

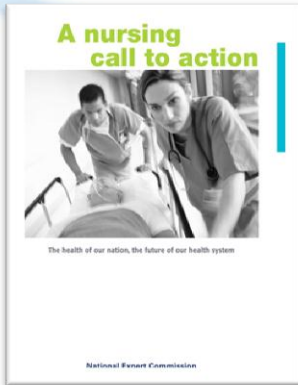
# National Expert Commission

Better Health. Better Care. Better Value. Best Nursing.



CANADIAN  
NURSES  
ASSOCIATION

## A Nursing Call to Action



In May 2011 the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) launched its independent National Expert Commission — the first of its kind to be spearheaded by registered nurses (RNs), Canada’s largest group of health-care professionals — to engage Canadians in transforming our country’s health-care system. Led by Maureen McTeer and Marlene Smadu, the Commission engaged and consulted RNs and other health-care providers, the Canadian public of all ages, educators, policy- and decision-makers, while spanning provinces and territories, to learn their views on the most pressing health-care issues and to discover their possible solutions.

In June 2012, the Commission presented *A Nursing Call to Action*, its final report to Canadians, the RN community and CNA leaders. Aiming to achieve *better health, better care and better value*, the report sets out a number of recommendations to drive Canada through a fundamental shift in the way health and health care is funded, managed and delivered.

## Nine-point Plan of Action

1. The Commission challenges all Canadians to ensure our country ranks in the top five nations for five key health outcomes to mark that milestone.
2. Set pan-Canadian goals that can be achieved through local solutions tailored to communities and the people who live in them.
3. Implement primary health care for all by 2017 by merging health and social-services workers in multidisciplinary teams, working in consultation with the citizens they serve.
4. Invest strategically to improve the factors that determine health, focusing particularly on poverty, inadequate housing, food insecurity and social exclusion.
5. Identify the health and care needs of vulnerable and marginalized people and communities at increased risk of health problems (e.g., aboriginal people, those with low incomes, seniors, etc.), then focus health resources where they will do the most good.
6. Governments should integrate health in all policies and create processes to support healthier lives for all Canadians.
7. Use the best evidence to develop and implement mechanisms to improve safety and quality across the health system.
8. Prepare the service providers differently with new topics, teaching methods, science and research in order to match the system’s transformation.
9. Use technology to its fullest, because when properly used it can provide rapid access to evidence and best practices for providers, to information and education for citizens, and tools for communication and collaboration among health-care providers — all of which will enhance patient safety.

## Online Resources

An enhanced electronic version of *A Nursing Call to Action* is available online at [expertcommission.cna-aiic.ca](http://expertcommission.cna-aiic.ca). This website provides everything you need to know about the Commission, its report and the nine-point plan of action, including:

- Videos
- Public polling reports
- References and bibliography
- Fact sheets
- Related research
- More...



[cna-aiic.ca](http://cna-aiic.ca)