



Ensuring a strong system for the future

Canada25's hearing before the
Commission on the Future of Health Care
in Canada

April 2, 2002



OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- ✿ What is *Canada25* and why are we here?

- ✿ Perspectives and Initiatives on ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Canadian health system
 - Prevention: encourage proactivity
 - Training: focus on developing young health care professionals
 - Policy: implement unique initiatives to facilitate collaboration

- ✿ Questions, comments and discussion



CANADA25 SEEKS PROMOTE A NEW DEFINITION OF THE ROLE OF YOUNG CANADIANS IN PUBLIC LIFE

Canada currently lacks a non-partisan vehicle to capture the policy views of 20-35 year olds

Consequently, many important issues that are relevant to this generation are debated and decided without their involvement

Our country should do more to tap into or build the experience of our exceptional young Canadians, who have much to contribute to our nation

Mission for Canada25

To engage the perspectives of young Canadians living around the world in Canada's public policy debates

In doing so, *Canada25* will

- ✿ Work to develop creative and constructive policy positions and initiatives
- ✿ Act as a resource for senior decision makers looking to involve young people
- ✿ Build a network of young Canadians living in Canada and around the world to encourage ongoing engagement in Canadian policy issues



WHY ARE WE INTERESTED?

As Canada25, we

- ✳ Believe in the need for young Canadians to positively and constructively contribute to their policy environment (both as health care professionals and citizens)**
- ✳ Are committed to the ideals of the public health care system, but are open to new forms of delivery and promotion that are not tied to any fixed model**
- ✳ Are willing about working with the commission and other stakeholders to ensure the long term sustainability of the system**

Note: This presentation includes proposals from our July 2001 report, *A New Magnetic North*, section 4.4, as well as those developed in subsequent discussions with our membership



PREVENTION: THE KEY TO LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY AND AN IMPROVED QUALITY OF LIFE

Prevention before treatment

- Mental Health
 - Affects one in four young Canadians; only one in nine receive treatment
- Injury Prevention
 - High incidence of hospital admission, and lifelong implications
- Smoking Cessation
 - Annual attributable costs almost \$17B

Upfront investment in prevention

- Promote healthy lifestyles to reverse trend to obesity, e.g.
 - Support programs such as ParticipAction
 - Return to daily physical education
 - Encourage employers to invest in their employees' health
- Encourage contact with healthcare providers to maintain and promote health, and not just to “restore” it

- **Look for opportunities throughout the system to invest in and encourage prevention**
- **Ensure young Canadians are not conditioned to rely on the system only for treatment**



ENSURE HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS ARE ABLE TO MAKE HIGH-QUALITY, LIFETIME CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR SYSTEM

Imperative

Relieve debt burdens

Resolve personnel shortages

Encourage life-long learning

What does this mean?

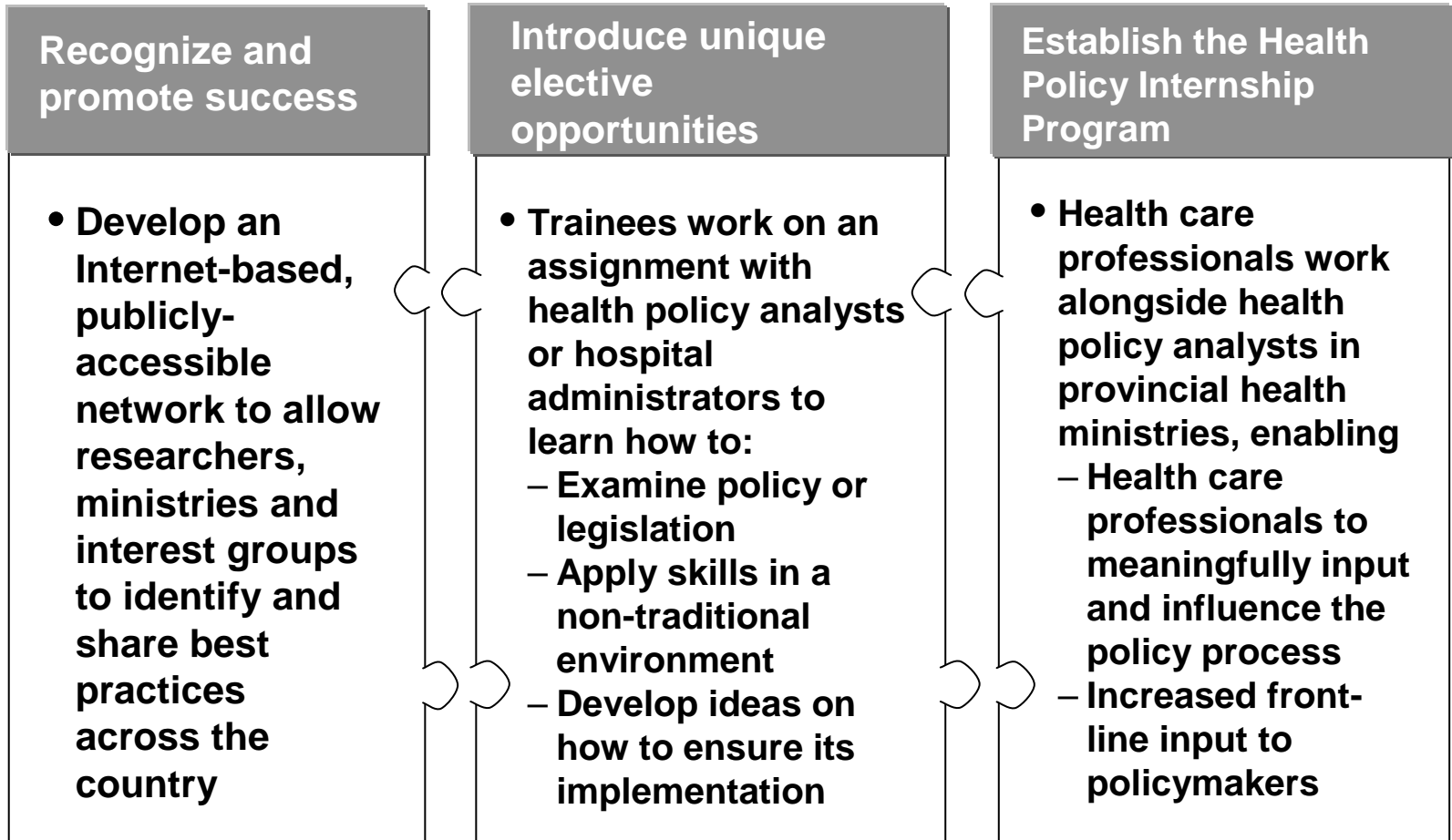
- ✳ **Ensure new graduates can make choices, and graduate committed to the public system**

- ✳ **Recruit more physicians from under-serviced areas**
- ✳ **Create more positions in medical and nursing schools**
 - **Facilitate easier integration of international health care professionals wanting to train to Canadian standards**

- ✳ **Challenge current roles, and provide opportunities for professionals to upgrade skills and take on increased responsibilities**
 - e.g. nurse to nurse-practitioner



DEVELOPING A FEW UNIQUE INITIATIVES TO ENCOURAGE AND PROMOTE COLLABORATION WILL ENSURE WE DEVELOP AND RETAIN TOP TALENT





QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION

Please review our report, *A New Magnetic North: How Canada can Attract and Retain Young Talent*, available at the meeting or through our website, www.canada25.com.

For more information or to pass on further comments/questions, please contact:

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Thank you for your time and interest.

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