

COSCO has sent a letter to all the Premiers, to Prime Minister Chretien and BC's Members of Parliament to urge the implementation of the Romanow Report. Here are some excerpts from letters we/our affiliates have received in response.

To Dave Cullen:

on behalf of the Right Honourable Jean Chretien I would like to acknowledge receipt of your email . . . the Commission was created by the Prime Minister and chaired by Roy Romanow to engage in a public dialogue with Canadians about their most cherished social program. The Government is prepared to work quickly in collaboration with its partners. .to ensure the sustainability of our national health care system.?

From Svend Robinson, NDP.

Dear Mr.Lawrence ? my federal New Democratic Party Colleagues and I strongly support the recommendations . . . a facts based argument for the absolute necessity of rebuilding our not-for-profit health care system . . . as a nationalpriority. Access . . must be based on medical necessity not a person's income. . . the system must remain public and not-for-profit ? we must learn from the disastrous American experience . . ? the time for stalling is over.? Please be assured that I will continue to press the Liberals on these issues.?

From The right Honorable Joe Clark,

Dear Rudy, . . . I appreciate your taking the time to write to me and share your thoughts on this very important matter.

as you know we share Mr. Romanow's belief that the federal government is not doing its share to fund health care. We have been consistent in our calls for this government to restore the funding that it removed. . . we fully support Mr. Romanow's recommendation for stable funding? .

The time for studies is past. The time for action is now.? My caucus colleagues and I will be pushing the government to bring forth new legislation to the House of Commons as soon as possible on this matter. . . Thank you for your corres-pondence . . . ? Your letter was very encouraging ?

have experienced an increase in drug costs as Pharmacare deductibles increased dramatically, and discounted passes for parks have been cancelled.

Perhaps the Campbell government thinks the program cuts wont hurt their high approval rate among seniors, targeted at 49% support in an Ipsos Reid poll. But seniors are paying attention to what the government is doing, and seniors talk to each other and remember when voting time rolls around. It's possible that the Liberals have underestimated the impact of their mistreatment, and the benefits from the tax reductions have long since vanished. 2005 is not that far off and if?

seniors have suffered personal hardship because of government actions they will make sure they get to the polls and will encourage others to do so.