

Should There Be More Space for Healthcare Privatization in Canada?

Yes

*Here are some of the reasons why people might argue that we **should** allow for more privatization in Canadian healthcare systems.*

Increased access to healthcare

Canadians are facing unprecedented challenges in accessing the care they need. Delayed procedures not only cause stress to patients and their families, they can also lead to deaths that could have been prevented. Creating more space for private healthcare would give citizens more options to ensure they can be treated in a timely manner.

No additional cost to individuals

Private healthcare does not necessarily mean increased costs on individuals. Many private health clinics across the country already deliver public services, meaning that the care they provide is paid for through Canada's taxpayer-funded Medicare system. Most proposals for healthcare privatization are built around the concept of "private delivery of public care", an approach which results only in positive outcomes for patients, who receive faster service at no cost.

Reducing the workload of healthcare staff

Canadian healthcare staff have been overburdened for years, and the COVID-19 pandemic made these issues worse. As a consequence, a significant number of doctors and nurses have moved from public to private institutions, or switched careers entirely. Hiring new staff is certainly the long-term solution, but in the short-term the government may need to hire private staff, even if it does cost taxpayers more.

Keeping clinics open in remote and rural areas

Rural regions are particularly affected by challenges in accessing healthcare, where residents have far fewer options for care. Many clinics and hospitals are having trouble hiring new staff to make up for departures, which has led to some facilities closing entirely. Making it simpler for clinics to opt out of public healthcare can help ensure that clinics can remain open and continue to offer services to local residents, particularly in parts of the country that are more remote.

Read More:

- [Ontario passes health-reform bill that expands private delivery of care](#) | CBC
- [Privatized health clinics see increase in patients fed up with wait times in public system](#) | CTV