



CANADIAN
PHARMACISTS
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION DES
PHARMACIENS
DU CANADA



Neighbourhood
Pharmacy
Association of Canada

Association canadienne
des pharmacies
de quartier

March 20, 2018

The Honourable Bardish Chagger
Leader of the Government in the House of Commons &
Minister of Small Business and Tourism
C.D. Howe Building
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H5

sbt.minister-ministre.pet@canada.ca

Dear Minister Chagger

The Canadian Pharmacists Association and the Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada are jointly inviting you to participate in a roundtable discussion with senior executives who represent the Canadian pharmacy sector.

A recent Conference Board of Canada report highlights that the pharmacy sector is contributing \$16.1 billion to the Canadian economy (GDP), and that the services pharmacists provided are both a benefit to patients and the economy, supporting over 247,100 jobs throughout Canada. Health Canada has also estimated that 78% of pharmacies are considered small businesses.

With over 10,500 community pharmacies that serve a vital function in nearly every community across Canada, pharmacists are supporting not just the health of the population but the health of our neighbourhood economies as well.

To highlight the sector and engage you and your government, the roundtable is designed to:

- Foster greater dialogue and uncover opportunities to unlock the value in the sector and health of communities, between government and pharmacy, at a national level. Given the breadth of the pharmacy sector in Canada, it is an important opportunity to engage with the Government of Canada, beyond the health portfolio, to exchange knowledge of how services offered in pharmacies can benefit our economy in addition to improving patient health by increasing access and optimizing the delivery of primary care and pharmacy practice, and,
- Provide an opportunity for you share the government's recent accomplishments and future plans for growth in key areas including tax changes for small businesses.

As discussed with your office recently, we would invite 15-20 leaders within the pharmacy sector to Ottawa to meet with you and your office for approximately an hour and a half, including representatives from:

- Canadian Pharmacists Association
- Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada
- Chains/Banners (such as Shoppers Drug Mart, McKesson, etc.)
- Independent pharmacist owners
- Women entrepreneurs/pharmacy owners

Given demanding schedules, we would be pleased to receive your availability for such an opportunity that could take place in the next 6-9 weeks.

Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to hearing from you or your office in the coming weeks.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'GD' with a vertical line extending downwards.

Glen Doucet, Interim CEO
Canadian Pharmacists Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB' with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Justin Bates, CEO
Neighbourhood Pharmacy Association of Canada