



January 31, 2025

The Honourable Jagmeet Singh
New Democratic Party of Canada

Dear Mr. Singh:

Re: Request for a Letter of Support and Inclusion of Bill C-277 in Your Party's Platform

Congratulations! The New Democratic Party of Canada has demonstrated remarkable leadership by twice unanimously recognizing brain injury as the silent epidemic affecting millions of individuals and families who face profound challenges without adequate support. This recognition reflects your party's steadfast commitment to addressing this critical issue. Notably, Alistair MacGregor, MP for Cowichan-Malahat-Langford, championed this cause on behalf of the NDP by introducing Bill C-277, the National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act. This visionary Private Member's Bill exemplifies your party's dedication to driving meaningful change for those impacted by brain injuries across Canada.

Today, I am writing to request your continued support for Bill C-277, the National Strategy on Brain Injuries Act. This legislation provides a historic opportunity to improve prevention, treatment, and support for the millions of Canadians affected by brain injuries each year. Its significance has been emphasized by unanimous, all-party support in the House of Commons, as well as full endorsement from the Standing Committee on Health. This rare political unity demonstrates a collective understanding of the urgent need to address the profound personal, social, and economic impacts of brain injuries.

To ensure continued progress on this critical issue, we respectfully request:

1. That your party provides a letter of support for a National Strategy on Brain Injury Act to reaffirm its commitment to this essential legislation.
2. That saving Bill C-277 or the National Strategy on Brain Injury Act be included in your party's platform, ensuring its advancement as a priority for the next federal election and beyond.

A National Strategy on Brain Injuries is essential to:

- Prevent brain injuries through targeted education and safety initiatives.
- Improve equitable access to care and rehabilitation services for survivors.
- Support families and caregivers navigating the long-term impacts of brain injuries.
- Support research and innovation to bridge knowledge gaps and enhance outcomes.



Bill C-277 Continues to Complement the NDP Platform

A National Strategy on Brain Injuries aligns closely with the NDP's core commitments outlined in your platform, "Ready for Better":

- **Healthcare for All:** The NDP's focus on universal pharmacare, mental health care, and accessible health services resonates strongly with the goals of Bill C-277. Brain injury often intersects with mental health and addictions, creating barriers to care that this strategy would address.
- **Addressing Inequality:** Many survivors of brain injuries come from vulnerable populations, including individuals experiencing homelessness, systemic discrimination, or poverty. A national strategy would help break down these inequities by providing inclusive support systems.
- **Social Justice:** Bill C-277 reflects the NDP's values of compassion and justice by focusing on prevention, rehabilitation, and care for those most in need.
- **Affordable Housing and Supports:** Brain injuries often result in financial instability, impacting housing and community inclusion. A comprehensive strategy aligns with your commitment to supporting individuals and families in challenging circumstances.

By continuing to champion Bill C-277, the NDP continues to lead on an issue that unites Canadians and addresses critical gaps in prevention, care, and equity.

Brain injuries impact Canadians of all ages and walks of life, often leaving survivors and their families facing profound emotional, physical, and financial challenges. By championing the National Strategy on Brain Injuries, your government has an opportunity to build on its legacy of leadership in healthcare and social equity, creating a healthier and more inclusive Canada for all.

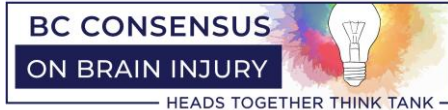
On behalf of the CGB Centre for Traumatic Life Losses, Brain Injury Canada, Brain Injury Associations Canada-wide, and survivors of brain injury and their families who are part of a national movement advocating for the implementation of a National Strategy on Brain Injuries, thank you. The unanimous support already given to Bill C-277 affirms the values Canadians hold dear: compassion, equity, and action. Including this legislation in your platform would send a powerful message about your party's dedication to improving the lives of those living with brain injuries and their families.

We are available to provide additional information or discuss this further at your convenience. Thank you for considering this request, and we look forward to your party's response and ongoing support for this critical initiative.

Sincerely,

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