

## Service Providers

If you are a **service provider** working with brain injury survivors, your questions to MPs and federal election candidates should focus on **funding, workforce capacity, and policy implementation**. Here are three key questions:

**1. Brain injury support services are severely underfunded, leaving many survivors without the care they need. What will you do to ensure long-term, sustainable federal support and funding to provinces and territories for brain injury services and programs?**

*Why this matters:* Many organizations operate with limited resources and unstable funding, making it difficult to provide consistent support.

**2. Many healthcare providers, service providers, first responders, emergency service personnel, and frontline workers lack the specialized training needed to effectively support brain injury survivors, particularly those with co-occurring mental health and addiction challenges. How will you invest in professional training and education to ensure survivors receive appropriate and informed care?**

*Why this matters:* Brain injury survivors often face barriers when seeking care because many professionals, including counselors, mental health and substance use specialists, first responders, and emergency service personnel, do not receive adequate training on the complexities of brain injury. Expanding education and training will improve access to effective, informed, and compassionate support across all communities, including rural and underserved areas.

**3. The Standing Committee on Health adopted a recommendation for a National Strategy on Brain Injury, but action has yet to be taken. If elected, how will you push for its implementation and ensure service providers have a voice in shaping policy?**

*Why this matters:* Service providers play a crucial role in supporting survivors, and their expertise should inform national policies and funding decisions.