

Creating a Mental Health Innovation Fund



THE ISSUE

Accelerating the adoption of innovations in mental health programs and services in Canada.

Adopting proven innovations on a country-wide basis is crucial to improving the overall mental health of Canadians and bettering patient outcomes.

Across Canada, there are **pockets of excellence in mental health**, but we do not have the resources to ensure that they are spread across the health system.

WHAT PARLIAMENTARIANS CAN DO

The CPA believes that the Government of Canada can build on the solid foundation of the Mental Health Commission of Canada by creating a strategically-targeted, time-limited *Mental Health Innovation Fund (The Fund)*.

- The Fund would be time-limited—\$250 million over five years—and accelerate the spread of evidence-based mental health programs and services that we know are effective at the community level.
- While there are a number of innovative programs and services in mental health, the Fund would provide the resources needed to advance the broader uptake of innovations that improve patient access, quality of care and health outcomes.
- The Fund would fulfill an important component of the Mental Health Commission of Canada's Strategy including Strategic Direction 3 on access to services and Strategic Direction 6 on leadership and collaboration.
- These innovations would directly benefit those populations for which the federal government is responsible such as First Nations, Canadian Forces, Correctional Services, veterans, RCMP and public servants.