

Organization Lobbyist Registration - Notice of Change

OL-11780-06 - Notice of Change

Status
Active

Registration Information

Registration number	OL-11780-06
Type of registration	Notice of Change
Initial Filing Date	26-Jun-2020
Official filing date	31-Jul-2022

Designated Filer Information

Organization name	Alberta College of Family Physicians
Designated filer name	Sudha Koppula
Position title	President
Business Address:	
Street or PO Box	Suite 370, 10403 172 St
City	Edmonton
Province / State	Alberta
Postal / ZIP code	T5S 1K9

Lobbyist Information

Current Lobbyist Information

Input the first and last names of each individual organization lobbyist who is or will be engaged in lobbying activities on behalf of the organization. Inputting the title(s) of each individual organization lobbyist is optional.

Name	Title
Sudha Koppula	President
Cathy Scrimshaw	Medical Advisor, ACFP Collaborative Mentorship Networks
Terri Potter	Executive Director
Noel DaCunha	President Elect

Former Lobbyist Information

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Input the first and last names of any individual who was listed as a current organization lobbyist in the organization's most recent active registration preceding this current filing but who since has ceased to be engaged in lobbying on behalf of the organization.

Only if you are filing a Semi-Annual Renewal Return, then also update this section by deleting any names that already were listed in this section in the organization's most recent active registration preceding the Semi-Annual Renewal Return.

Name

Vishal Bhella

Title

Past President

Former Public Office Holders

Has any organization lobbyist named in this registration become a “former public office holder” within the previous two (2) years?

No

Lobbying MLAs, Executive Council and/or their Staff

Have any organization lobbyists named in this registration lobbied in the previous 6 months, or do any of them expect to lobby in the next 6 months, any MLA or any individual on an MLA’s staff?

Yes

Have any organization lobbyists named in this registration lobbied in the previous 6 months, or do any of them expect to lobby in the next 6 months, any member of the Executive Council (includes all Ministers, all Associate Ministers and the Premier) or any individual on the staff of a member of the Executive Council?

Yes

Contract for Providing Paid Advice

Does any organization lobbyist named in this registration hold a contract for providing paid advice to a Government department or a prescribed Provincial entity?

No

Does any person associated with an organization lobbyist named in this registration hold a contract for providing paid advice to a Government department or a prescribed Provincial entity?

No

Organization Information

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Organization Information

Does your organization have members?

Yes

Provide a general description of the membership of the organization.

The Alberta College of Family Physicians (ACFP) is a voluntary, professional organization for family physicians, family medicine residents, and medical students in Alberta that is the exclusive voice for family physicians and family medicine in Alberta. It focuses on member services and engagement by supporting family physicians with their continuing professional development (CPD) needs, advocacy, leadership, and primary care research.

Input the first and last names of each current director of the organization (if any).

Dr. Donna Mumert
Dr. Melanie Hnatiuk
Dr. Sudha Koppula
Dr. Noel DaCunha
Dr. Dinesh Witharana
Dr. Douglas Tuck
Dr. Anila Ramaliu
Dr. Vishal Bhella
Dr. Everett Zdrill

Input the first and last names of each current officer of the organization (if any).

Dr. Vishal Bhella
Dr. Noel DaCunha
Dr. Sudha Koppula

Provide a description of the organization's business or activities.

As the voice of family physicians in Alberta, the ACFP promotes the principles of the profession including being skilled and adaptive clinicians and resources to the community, delivering longitudinal and continuous care across the age and disease spectrum, building trusting relationships and providing care for all Albertans. The ACFP works hard to ensure both the public and government grow in the awareness of the value of family physicians, its vision, and the concrete leadership it provides to support a strong primary care system and implement positive change.

Parent and Subsidiary Corporations

If your organization is a corporation, does it have any subsidiary corporations that have a direct interest in the outcome of the lobbying activities?

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No

If your organization is a corporation, is it a subsidiary of any other corporation(s)?

Yes

Full name of parent corporation

College of Family Physicians of Canada

Business address

2630 Skymark Avenue, Mississauga, ON L4W 5A4

Funding of Lobbying Activities

Has any individual or organization contributed, during the individual's or organization's financial year that preceded this filing, \$1,000 or more towards the lobbying activities on behalf of the organization?

No

Government Funding

Has the organization received any funding from any government, government agency or prescribed Provincial entity within the last 12 months?

No

Has the organization requested any funding from any government, government agency or prescribed Provincial entity within the last 12 months?

Yes

Full name of government, government agency or prescribed Provincial entity (no acronyms)

Health Canada (2021)

Enter amount (numbers only)

\$356,010.00

Lobbying Activity - Previous 6 Months

Description of Lobbying Activities

Subject Matter	Who is Being Lobbied?	Subject Matter Details
Health	Alberta Legislative Assembly Alberta Health	Program or Policy: Integration of Health and Social Systems No specific objectives/outcomes were sought. Program or Policy: Delivery of Support for People Suffering from Substance Use Disorder or Chronic Pain

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Program or Policy: Alberta's Care Plan for Chronic Pain Patients on Long-Term Opioid Therapy

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Program or Policy: The Integrated Health Neighbourhood of the Future

The Integrated Health Neighbourhood of the Future

Program or Policy: Women's Health Week

The ACFP accepted an invitation from the Women's Health Coalition of Alberta (WHC) to provide opening remarks to the Women's Health Week Kick-Off and Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Webinar on May 7th. The ACFP participated in the Wear Red PERIOD Day joint event with UCP Caucus members and Minister Issik on May 11th.

The ACFP is committed to standing alongside the Women's Health Coalition (WHC) to raise awareness and elevate conversations about women's sexual, reproductive, and menstrual health as well as support family physicians through education programs in gynecological health to best support women's health in the communities.

Program or Policy: Resources in Primary Care

The ACFP requested a meeting with Minister Issik to discuss resources in Primary Care. This meeting stemmed from conversations had at the Wear Red PERIOD Day joint event.

No meetings were scheduled, no further actions were pursued.

Program or Policy: Recognition of World Family Doctor Day (WFDD)

The ACFP emailed Alberta's Members of the Legislative Assembly to join in the global recognition and celebration of family doctors on May 19th. This effort resulted in engagement from social media influencers such as MLA Edmonton-City Centre, David Shepherd, and Minister of Health, Jason Copping. The ACFP will continue to engage with the province MLAs to elevate the recognition of family doctors in Alberta.

**Program or Policy: Patient's Medical Home (PMH)
Award for Outstanding Family Practice Award
Presentation**

The ACFP extended an email invitation to the Minister of Health, Honourable Jason Copping, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Peter Singh, Member of Parliament, Mr. George Chahal, Member of Parliament, Mr. Jasraj Singh Hallan, Her Worship, Mayor Godek, and Councillor, Gian-Carlo Carra to attend. and recognize the award-winning family practice clinic, The East Calgary Family Care Clinic (ECFCC). Unfortunately, none of the invitees were able to attend the June 21st award presentation.

The ACFP supports the vision of a PMH as a model of care that puts the needs of patients and their communities at the centre of care and is committed to continuing to bring general awareness to its members, local and regional members of government, and the public.

Decision: Virtual Care in the Context of the Patient Medical Home

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Recommendations for Managing Care Deficit and Respiratory Illnesses Including COVID-19 in Alberta

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Transparency and Collaboration on COVID-19 Response in Alberta

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Provision of Harm Reduction Services in Community

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Financial Benefit or Grant: Implementation of the Patient's Medical Home (PMH)

Met with the Minister to discuss the advancement and implementation of the PMH and Alberta College of Family Physician's (CFPC) continued work in the Province and nationally and asked for the government's support and how funding might work for team-based care. The importance of family physicians as leaders at the clinical level and Primary Care

Health

Executive Council
Alberta Legislative
Assembly
Alberta Health
Premier's Office

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Network (PCN) level was re-stated. The Alberta College of Family Physicians' (ACFP) "Where We Stand" position statement was also shared with the Minister. As changes within the health care system evolve through policy and structure, the ACFP asked for clarification of the government's vision for primary care. The ACFP asked the Minister how it could help to support members to adapt to change through education, research, and professional development. The ACFP also asked if it could provide feedback on Dr. Lee Green's Clinical ARP Design and Promotion Consultation which reported on support of new models of care, delivery of primary care, etc. before it is released publicly. The Minister agreed and ACFP was provided an opportunity to provide confidential feedback to Alberta Health.

Program or Policy: Public Health Act

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Program or Policy: Health Professions Act

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Program or Policy: Implementation of the Patient's Medical Home

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Program or Policy: Building Physician Leadership in Alberta

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Health Reform Focusing on Quality and Sustainability on Alberta

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Ceased negotiations between Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association (AMA)

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Health Reform in Alberta

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Community-based physicians not engaged and supported by the health care system

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

Decision: Ceased negotiations between Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association (AMA)

No specific objectives/outcomes were sought.

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Select all communication techniques that have been or are expected to be used in the lobbying (as applicable).

Arranging one or more meetings, Written communication whether in hard copy or electronic format, Meetings, Telephone Calls, Grassroots communication, Social Media, Informal communications, Presentations

Lobbying Activity - Next 6 Months

Description of Lobbying Activities

Subject Matter	Who is Being Lobbied?	Subject Matter Details
Health	Provincial Primary Care Network Committee Alberta Legislative Assembly Alberta Health Services Alberta Health	<p>Program or Policy: Alberta Pain Strategy Implementation</p> <p>The ACFP through its Collaborative Mentorship Network for Chronic Pain and Addiction works with network partners to inform policy and program needs to advance excellence in the treatment of chronic pain and related substance use in Alberta. Priority will be given to improving communication and use of resources between primary care and specialty to ensure continuous and integrated care for Albertans who struggle with chronic pain or addiction.</p> <p>Program or Policy: Policy or Program: Women’s Health Week</p> <p>The ACFP accepted an invitation from the Women’s Health Coalition of Alberta (WHC) to provide opening remarks to the Women’s Health Week Kick-Off and Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) Webinar on May 7th. The ACFP participated in the Wear Red PERIOD Day joint event with UCP Caucus members and Minister Issik on May 11th.</p> <p>The ACFP is committed to standing alongside the Women’s Health Coalition (WHC) to raise awareness and elevate conversations about women’s sexual, reproductive, and menstrual health as well as support family physicians through education programs in gynecological health to best support women’s health in the communities.</p> <p>Program or Policy: Resources in Primary Care</p>

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Program or Policy: Patient's Medical Home (PMH) Award for Outstanding Family Practice Award Presentation

The ACFP extended an email invitation to the Minister of Health, Honourable Jason Copping, Member of the Legislative Assembly, Mr. Peter Singh, Member of Parliament, Mr. George Chahal, Member of Parliament, Mr. Jasraj Singh Hallan, Her Worship, Mayor Godek, and Councillor, Gian-Carlo Carra to attend and recognize the award-winning family practice clinic, The East Calgary Family Care Clinic (ECFCC). Unfortunately, none of the invitees were able to attend the June 21st award presentation.

The ACFP supports the vision of a PMH as a model of care that puts the needs of patients and their communities at the centre of care and is committed to continuing to bring general awareness to its members, local and regional members of government, and the public.

Program or Policy: Run up to Election 2023

The ACFP is developing an advocacy strategy and campaign in preparation to the upcoming provincial election. This will articulate the ACFP's key messages to its members, the public, our partners, and each political party ensuring there is an understanding that

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family physicians, family medicine, and primary health care are the cornerstones to a high-functioning, cost-effective health care system.

The ACFP will be seeking the expertise of government relations consultants.

Program or Policy: The Future of Family Medicine Issue:

The current state of family medicine is at a critical crossroads. Family physicians are concerned about the future of the specialty and their livelihoods. This crisis requires immediate, decisive attention, and investment from Alberta's government.

Recommendations:

To build hope for a better future for the specialty of family medicine, we need to acknowledge the current reality, challenge mental models and orthodox structures, and provide adequate resourcing and funding to support the specialty; thus, influencing and inspiring the future of family medicine.

Health

Alberta Health
Alberta Legislative
Assembly

Program or Policy: Delivery of Support for People Suffering from Substance Use Disorders or Chronic Pain

The opioid crisis remains an active and escalating public health issue that has been shelved in favour of the response to the pandemic. Primary Care is comprehensive and can support the health of a population with a wide range of chronic conditions including substance use disorder. ACFP continues to support capacity and advocacy efforts to create better health outcomes for those who struggle with substance use or who are at risk of developing addiction. Chronic pain patients can be managed in primary care when there are adequate supports available. An ACFP task force continues to work on building a set of recommendations that will build on the opioid response recommendations published in 2017.

Program or Policy: Building Physicians Leadership in Alberta

We will continue to lobby for the need for investment in physician leadership in Alberta, that all high performing

systems require high performing leaders. We will continue to lobby for the urgent need to share a clear, compelling vision for the future of the health care system to build collective action for better care for Albertans.

Program or Policy: Alberta's Care Plan for Chronic Pain Patients on Long-Term Opioid Therapy

Committed to the Collaborative Mentorship Network for Chronic Pain and Addiction (CMN) created in effort to support family physicians to provide comprehensive care to patients living with chronic pain and addiction. Our goal is to reduce unnecessary deaths and demonstrate the importance of investing in prevention and continuity of care with the purpose of reducing costs associated with unmanaged chronic pain and substance use in Alberta. The Alberta College of Family Physicians is seeking an opportunity to meet with the Honourable Jason Luan to discuss ways to collaboratively move this Agreement in Principle into action.

Program or Policy: Integration of Health and Social Systems

The ACFP will continue to lobby for the following: the socioeconomic factors in a person's life affects the resources and tools that they will have to support their health and wellbeing. It is important that the two sectors, both provided by government, should be integrated operationally and strategically. There needs to be work done in community to develop ideas and innovations that can be spread and scaled in the province. Primary Care is positioned to support the local embodiment of this integration however, it should be led by provincial policy and supported by research and innovation programs.

Decision: Virtual Care in the Context of the Patient Medical Home

The ACFP will advocate and lobby for the protection of virtual care as a function of the PMH and not something that is offered through corporate models with anonymous family physicians providing their care. Virtual care being offered to Albertans, funded by Alberta Health to support access to care during the COVID-19 pandemic. The government has directly

promoted TELUS Babylon, Maple, and other providers who are now promoting their provision of care as “access to the health care system” or “primary care providers”. Funding is currently coming from the physician services budget to ensure that Albertans have access without charge.

Decision: Health Reform in Alberta

We will continue to lobby for the advancement of the quadruple aim optimizing health system performance by simultaneously pursuing four aspects of quality: patient experience of care (including quality and satisfaction), health of populations, reducing the per capita cost of providing healthcare, and healthcare worker experience in providing care. We will continue to lobby for government support, through collaboration with all stakeholders, including family physicians, to advance practice workforce planning and community-based longitudinal patient care. We will continue to lobby for increased effort to build primary care stability and interdisciplinary teams for all communities through the right funding model for rural and urban communities. We will continue to lobby for the integration of health and social systems to optimize resources available and support health and well-being of Albertans with complex and chronic conditions.

Decision: Negotiations Between Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association

We will continue to lobby that Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association (AMA) continue their negotiations to create a renewed physician services agreement that will protect the delivery of sustainable high quality health care to all Albertans, while being responsive to the fiscal challenges faced by the province. Funding framework changes need to be readdressed.

Decision: COVID Vaccine Rollout

The ACFP will advocate for the potential variability of capacity and willingness for family physicians to be involved through Alberta's COVID-19 vaccine rollout and future health care crises. Family physicians are on the frontlines of our health care system. They are often the first point of contact for a patient seeking care. The trusting relationships between family

physicians and patients as well as the infrastructure of clinical operations throughout the province can be an important contributor to the current vaccination campaign.

Decision: Community-based Physicians not Engaged and Supported by the Healthcare System

We will continue to lobby for all supports, services, and resources for all family physicians whether they be located in urban centres or rural communities, emergency departments or clinics, supported by AHS or not, so that in the coming months the risk to patients, providers, and staff in community clinics is minimized and there is a truly collaborative approach to responding to the immediate COVID-19 pandemic and that we learn from this experience so the Alberta health care system is ready for any and all crises to come in the future. We will continue to lobby for engagement and involvement in the vaccine rollout and build awareness of the willingness of family physicians to educate all patients regarding the safety and efficacy of the vaccines, to administer as vaccines become universally available, and to provide compassionate and comprehensive care and follow-up through the pandemic and beyond.

Decision: Negotiations Between Alberta Health and the Alberta Medical Association

We will continue to lobby for steps to be taken towards repairing the damaged relationship between the government and family physicians. Trust between government and the AMA, particularly with family physicians has been crushed to the point that it may take significant time to regain what has been lost. Trust is the foundation of all successful relationships and the lack of it in contract negotiations will have a devastating effect on the ability to effectively move forward. The recent loss of service and access to high quality primary and urgent care due to recent budget cuts, many disproportionately targeting primary care continue to cause clinics to let go of essential employees and resources due to insufficient support for the service levels required. Family physicians continue to be deflated and overwhelmed by recent

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government decisions. Many family physicians have closed their practices.

Decision: Health Reform Focusing on Quality and Sustainability in Alberta

Regarding the overall primary care system, the ACFP will continue to offer to work together to advance aligned priorities and encourage all MLAs to reach out to their family physicians and clinic teams in their constituencies to let them know they are supported and to seek to understand the challenges and barriers that patients in their constituencies have to access equitable comprehensive and compassionate care.

Decision: Health Reform in Alberta

The ACFP lobbied for an integrated system response plan for COVID-19 patient care and vaccine rollout and the need for collaboration between public health, primary care, and other community providers; a plan to be in place for mass vaccine rollout that includes the whole health system; and communication regarding the integrated system response plan to all the partners in the health system.

Decision: Community-based Physicians not Engaged and Supported by the Healthcare System

We will continue to lobby for all supports, services, and resources for all family physicians whether they be located in urban centres or rural communities, emergency departments or clinics, supported by AHS or not, so there is a truly collaborative approach to responding to the immediate health care crises and that we learn from the COVID experience so the Alberta health care system is ready for any and all crises to come in the future, and family physicians are equipped to provide compassionate and comprehensive care and follow-up through each crisis and beyond.

Communication Techniques

Select all communication techniques that have been or are expected to be used in the lobbying (as applicable).

Written communication whether in hard copy or electronic format, Arranging one or more meetings, Social Media, Grassroots communication, Meetings, Telephone Calls, Presentations, Informal communications

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Additional Information (Optional)

Input any other relevant information that you wish to include in this public registration.

Declaration

Declaration and Certification

I declare that (select only one)

- No lobbyist named in this registration holds a contract for providing paid advice to a department or prescribed Provincial entity.

I further declare that (select one for each statement):

Every lobbyist named in this registration, and to my knowledge after reasonable inquiry, every person associated with those lobbyists, are not in contravention of section 6 of the *Lobbyists Act* (contracting prohibitions)

- I Declare

Every lobbyist named in this registration, and to my knowledge after reasonable inquiry, every person associated with those lobbyists, are not in contravention of section 6.2 of the *Lobbyists Act* (prohibited gifts)

- I Declare

I certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information contained in this return is true.

Designated filer (DF) name

Sudha Koppula