

## DOCTORS UNITED IN DEMANDING RESPECT AND HONESTY FROM THE GOVERNMENT

MONTRÉAL, August 20, 2014 /CNW Telbec/ - During the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Medical Association (CMA), delegates from all medical associations in Canada unanimously adopted a special motion and added their voices to those of medical federations in Québec. In doing so, the Canadian Medical Association has underscored how crucial it is that governments not renege on agreements that were freely negotiated and signed through legislation.

Addressing participants, Dr. Diane Francoeur, president of the Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec (FMSQ) and Dr. Louis Godin, president of the Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec (FMOQ), reminded everyone that Québec doctors negotiated and signed agreements on their conditions for remuneration with the government in good faith. "While a number of investments were planned in medicine over the course of the last two years of the agreement, the new Québec government, in its quest to achieve budgetary balance, has reneged on its signature and refuses to enforce the agreements. Québec doctors are ready to do their part in balancing the budget; however, they demand that the government negotiate in good faith!"

The two federations deplore the fact that the government is not genuinely negotiating and is even threatening doctors to adopt a special law that would unilaterally change the signed agreements. "Our health system is constantly faced with major challenges. The collaboration between governments and doctors is not limited to negotiating their working conditions, but also to improving the efficiency of our health system for patients and to responding to the numerous challenges that arise within it."

In the eyes of the FMOQ and the FMSQ, the government is breaking the bond of trust with the medical profession and jeopardizing an important partnership by flouting these agreements.

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The FMOQ is an 8,000-member strong professional union representing the general practitioners of Québec. Its mission is to represent the professional and scientific interests of its members. For more information on the FMOQ, please consult its website at [www.fmoq.org](http://www.fmoq.org).

The Fédération des médecins spécialistes du Québec represents close to 10,000 medical specialists certified in one of the 53 recognized medical specialties.

The CMA is a voluntary professional organization representing over 80,000 of Canada's physicians and comprising 12 provincial and territorial medical associations as well as 60 national medical organizations.

Source: Fédération des médecins omnipraticiens du Québec  
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