

Mandate

The Health Committee monitors, responds to, initiates debate and proposes changes with respect to health care and health related issues and works to lead and serve the business community of Calgary by acting as the voice for the business community. The Chamber's Health Committee has sponsored initiatives that include the need to build healthy workplaces, and major reforms to Alberta's health care system. With aging populations soon to create even more pressure on health care resources across the country, this committee is dedicated to forward-looking ideas on the management of electronic health records, and data privacy and security, as well as solutions to the critical shortage of health care workers in a burgeoning economy.

2008 – 2009 Committee Focus Areas

- Patient focused funding
- Amending the Health Protection Act
- Amending the Health Professions Act
- Healthy workplaces
- Economics of wellness

Summary of Previous Year's Work

The Committee had a very active year in terms of its work and suggestions regarding health policy. Of the 13 resolutions submitted to the Alberta Chambers of Commerce by the Calgary Chamber, three were led by the Health Committee. These resolutions included: *Critical Factors for Alberta Health Services Procurement Policy*; *Employers and the Impact of the Health Information Amendment Act*; and *Renewal of Alberta's Healthcare System*.

Over the course of the year, the Committee also learned a great deal about the inner workings of Alberta Health and Wellness. Speakers such as Parliamentary Secretary Raj Sherman and Glenn Monteith, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Health Workforce Division, which helped to shed light on current and emerging trends and priorities within the provincial government.

In addition to the regular meetings, the committee also hosted in-camera sessions with two special guests: the Honourable Ron Liepert, provincial Minister of Health and Wellness; and Dr. Robert Ouellet, President of the Canadian Medical Association.

Committee Meeting Guest Speakers

Date	Speaker	Topic
November 2008	Dr. Eric Wasylenko, Board Advisor / Medical Director, Foothills Country Hospice Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patient Focused Funding
February 2009	Dr. Raj Sherman, Parliamentary Assistant, Alberta Health and Wellness	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current and Emerging work at Alberta Health and Wellness
March 2009	Glenn Monteith, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Workforce Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Future of the Health Workforce
April 2009	Dr. Robert Ouellet, President, Canadian Medical Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open Discussion with Committee Members