

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Prevention is “Key” to Stronger Economy and Health Care System.

February 16, 2005 – Today the BC Chiropractic Association applauded the BC Governments recent budget announcements which will see new funding for health care initiatives focused on prevention, the reduction of MSP payments for lower income individuals, families and seniors, and new efforts to bring awareness and resources to integrate necessary health treatment into primary care.

BCCA President, Dr. Jim Cooper states: “this is great news and will allow more British Columbians to make an informed decision over their choice of necessary health care. Healthy British Columbians are the foundation for sustained provincial economic growth. They need the ability to choose their health services to respond to situations which result from - recreation, work, and motor vehicle related events.”

In the Budget Speech, Finance Minister Colin Hansen announced: “The Government will spend \$100 million for public health initiatives including Act Now BC – a health promotion and prevention program. In addition, the government will dedicate \$120 million over three years to further reduce Medical Services Plan premiums for lower income individuals, families and seniors. In total, the change will reduce or eliminate MSP premiums for about 215,000 individuals.

Dr. Cooper states, “Prevention is the key and this announcement will help people all across the province by educating them on ways to prevent spine and related injuries which utilize almost 1/3 of medicare and related services. Promotion of prevention and effective treatment of the many back and neck injuries will help improve British Columbians health and support primary care reform.”

British Columbians are faced with daily health care choices involving outcomes, information or advice for prevention. While hospitals and their related services are of utmost importance, the majority of daily health care is in fact provided in the private practices of all health professionals, including BC’s 895 chiropractic doctors.

The British Columbia Chiropractic Association has been a regulated health profession in British Columbia since 1934. Doctors of Chiropractic diagnose and treat patients whose health problems are associated with the body’s muscular, nervous, and skeletal systems, especially the spine. For more information about the BC Chiropractic Association visit www.bcchiro.com.

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