



May 16, 2018

Honourable Helena Jaczek
Minister of Health and Long Term Care
Hepburn Block 10th Floor
80 Grosvenor St
Toronto, ON M7A 2C4

Dear Minister Jaczek,

On behalf of the 244 credentialed orthotic and prosthetic professionals in Ontario, Orthotics Prosthetics Canada (OPC) and the Ontario Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (OAPO) wishes to communicate its support of CNIB's Re-Vision ADP initiative. We encourage changes at ADP to modernize and update its policies to ensure the most effective options are being utilized so Ontarians with limb loss and mobility deficiencies can, as CNIB states, "...can participate fully and equally in society."

ADP is a critical program disabled Ontarians rely upon to help fund the treatments required to achieve mobility independence for a return to safe independent living and employment. As the CNIB has indicated, ADP funding levels and categories have not been significantly updated for almost 20 years in regards to visual aids and close to 15 years in regards to prosthetics and orthotic devices. This despite a national inflation rate close to 2% over the past 10 years. What this amounts to is that ADP's formula of funding 75% of the devices people need for mobility and independent living is not being achieved, because the funding has not kept up with cost increases as well as technological advancements. ADP's funding formula is based on out-of-date pricing.

Technological advancements in prosthetics and orthotics have evolved to increase the safety, comfort and capabilities for those with missing limbs and mobility deficiencies. There seems to be a real reluctance by ADP to adopt microprocessor knees, newer myoelectric arms, stance control KAFOs and other technologies that, in some cases, have proven to reduce healthcare costs through timely intervention using these technologies that improve the quality of life and independence of the patient.¹

¹ Dobson DaVanzo & Associates; Retrospective Cohort Study of the Economic Value of Orthotic and Prosthetic Services Among Medicare Beneficiaries; 2013

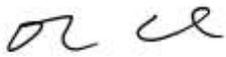
Certified Orthotists and Certified Prosthetists are working to provide patients with the treatments they need to be full participants in society. Barriers such as archaic policies that exclude the devices patients need and inadequate funding models are a substantial hindrance for patients to achieve independence.

It is well past time for ADP to Re-Vision and make the changes that allow the disabled, mobility challenged and visually impaired to be full participants in Ontario society and out of the healthcare system.

We are eager to work with ADP to help develop guidelines to more effectively manage costs and achieve the goals the Government of Ontario shares with the disabled and the professionals working to help them.

If you have any questions or to discuss further, please contact Dana Cooper, OPC Executive Director at 613-595-1919 ext 3.

Sincerely,



Dan Mead, President
Orthotics Prosthetics Canada



Eric Bapty, President
Ontario Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists

cc CNIB Ontario
Honourable Tracy MacCharles, Minister Responsible for Accessibility