

Invest in the Health Human Resources Pipeline

Sustaining the Diagnostic Workforce to Clear National Patient Backlogs

Canada faces a severe, compounding shortage of medical imaging professionals—including radiologists, medical radiation technologists (MRTs), and sonographers. Long hours and growing backlogs lead to high rates of burnout, pushing practitioners out of the public health system. Without immediate investment in workforce capacity, diagnostic wait times will continue to expand, delaying critical treatment for cancer, cardiac conditions, and emergency cases.

CORE POLICY ASK

\$5 Million over 5 years dedicated to targeted national health human resources (HHR) planning, retention strategies, and clinical training support.

Strategic Initiatives & Impact



Targeted Recruitment & Retention: Establish federal incentives to retain seasoned radiologists and imaging specialists within the public system, preventing early retirement and attrition to private sector markets.



Rural & Remote Coverage: Develop national coverage models and incentives for locum support to ensure equitable access to diagnostic reporting in northern and rural regions.



Accelerated Credential Recognition: Streamline the credential assessment and licensing integration for qualified internationally trained medical graduates (IMGs) and imaging technologists without compromising safety standards.

1 in 3 health regions report critical diagnostic imaging staffing shortages across Canada.

How a National HHR Strategy Affects the Workforce Pipeline

