

Consumers in Charge: Public Ranking of Health Care

The Health Consumer Index Approach





Johan Hjertqvist

Founder & President, Health Consumer Powerhouse, Brussels

Canadians are demanding better medical care. Health care providers, politicians, and even the Supreme Court recognize that Canadians face unacceptable delays and shortages when they need to access health care. The time is ripe for change. What are the most pressing problems that must be solved? What provinces are getting it right? What can we learn from the various European models of health care?

The Frontier Centre for Public Policy, in tandem with Europe's Health Consumer Powerhouse, is developing a Canadian Health Consumer Index.

By identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each province, and comparing Canada to the EU member states, the Index will stimulate discussion, and broaden the debate about in which direction to steer health care in Canada. The Index will empower consumers and providers by showing them what is possible, and will encourage policy makers to learn from best practices across Canada and in Europe.

Join us for a discussion of the EuroHealth Consumer Index, the Canadian Health Consumer Index, the European experience of health reform, and the possibilities for Canada.

Johan Hjertqvist is the founder and president of the Health Consumer Powerhouse in Brussels, the European do-tank for better healthcare by consumer information and knowledge. Before the Powerhouse, Mr. Hjertqvist was the manger of Timbro Health Policy Unit, a division of the Timbro Policy Group in Stockholm, Sweden. Mr. Hjertqvist has a background in health care policy and welfare entrepreneurial activities. Beginning in 1999 he led a four-year project to analyze the transformation of health care in the Stockholm region which resulted in three comprehensive reports. His "The Stockholm Health Care Revolution" published in 2000 is an internationally well-known inspiration to reform. During the 1990's, Mr. Hjertqvist played an active role in the transition of internal market ideas to a number of countries, UK, Norway and Canada not the least. Mr. Hjertqvist has also acted as an advisor to the Greater Stockholm Council, specializing in market infrastructures where purchasers and providers can meet and the focus of his projects between 1995 – 99 was on creating new arenas where private health care entrepreneurs and contractors could come together to strengthen the impact of market pluralism. Mr. Hjertqvist has a Master of Laws degree from the University of Stockholm and is a member of international health care networks and institutions such as the Stockholm Network in London and the Centre for the New Europe in Brussels and also serves on the Board of Research Advisors at the Frontier Centre for Public Policy.

Place: Viscount Gort Hotel, Viscount Room, 1670 Portage Avenue

Time: 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Date: Monday, December 4, 2006

Cost: No cost but you must register to attend Coffee and light refreshments will be available

Registration Deadline – Thursday, November 30, 2006
Please call 977-5050 to register today

Meeting for Policy Experts - Short seminars for opinion leaders and senior decision-makers in government that explore new ideas and concepts on the frontier of public policy. The Frontier Centre is an independent think tank which seeks to broaden the debate on our future through public policy research and education and to explore positive changes within our public institutions that support economic growth and opportunity.