



Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians

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caep.ca

CAEP Stands with Quebec's Emergency Physicians Against Bill 2

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The Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians (CAEP) condemns, in the strongest possible terms, the authoritarian legislation rammed through the National Assembly by the CAQ targeting Quebec's physicians.

The passage of Bill 2 represents a gross misunderstanding of the pressures facing Quebec's emergency departments and their root causes. Imposition of unmeetable targets on emergency physicians, already stretched to their absolute maximum trying to care for patients in an under-funded and under-resourced system, is both naive and unconscionable. Rather than engaging cooperatively with physicians and working together to tackle the fundamental causes of emergency wait times, the government has chosen to bulldoze the usual negotiation process and force its misguided strategies on Quebec's emergency physicians.

This bill places the accountability of fixing our in-crisis emergency medicine in the laps of the physicians, without any ability to effect the systemic changes CAEP has identified as necessary to fix our emergency medicine system. This is not problem solving; this is simply scapegoating. Real, substantial changes to the healthcare system in Quebec, and across Canada, are needed, but what the government has legislated will do the opposite.

The threats of penalty for emergency physicians exercising their basic Charter rights of expression and mobility will only serve to further traumatize Quebec's emergency physician community, driving more of them away from the province, worsening the already dire emergency medicine crisis in the province.

We stand with Quebec's emergency medicine community and the patients they serve in opposing this harmful legislation. Quebecers deserve a government that supports, rather than hinders, the physicians working tirelessly to provide quality care. It's time to focus on building a strong, sustainable healthcare system that truly meets the needs of patients and those dedicated to treating them.

In solidarity.

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About CAEP

As the national voice of emergency medicine (EM), CAEP provides continuing medical education, advocates on behalf of emergency physicians and their patients, supports research and strengthens the EM community. In co-operation with other specialties and committees, CAEP also plays a vital role in the development of national standards and clinical guidelines. CAEP keeps Canadian emergency physicians informed of developments in the clinical practice of EM and addresses political and societal changes, that affect the delivery of emergency health care.

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