

The Federal Initiative To Address HIV/AIDS in Canada

Canada's Domestic Response to HIV/AIDS

**Presentation to the
Northern Dimension Partnership
On Public Health and Social Well-being
March 18, 2009
Ottawa, Ontario**

A map of Canada is shown in the background, with the word 'CANADA' written in large blue letters across the top. The map is color-coded by province and territory: Ontario is light blue, Quebec is light green, Alberta is light yellow, Saskatchewan is light orange, Manitoba is light green, British Columbia is light blue, Yukon is light green, Northwest Territories is light yellow, and Nunavut is light orange. The word 'CANADA' is centered at the top in a large, bold, blue font.

CANADA

POPULATION:

- 33,387,228

GOVERNMENT:

- A federated system of government: federal government and 10 Provincial governments and 3 territorial governments

HEALTH:

- Direct health care is the role of provinces and territories, while the federal government has a key leadership role in national health policy and legislation
- There is shared responsibility for federal, provincial and territorial, and regional health funding
- Regions and municipalities play critical roles in public health policy and service delivery

HIV and AIDS in Canada: Current Realities

- Estimated 58,000 people were living with HIV in 2005 (Up 16% from 2002).
- 27% are unaware they are infected with HIV.
- 2,300-4,500 people were newly infected in 2005.
- Overall infection rates are not declining.
- Concentrated epidemics affect 8 key populations
- Men who have sex with men remain the single most affected population in Canada, comprising 51% of all persons living with HIV.

HIV and AIDS in Canada: Current Realities

- The proportion of pregnant women diagnosed with HIV receiving antiretroviral treatment has increased from 60% in 1997 to 89% in 2006.
- The proportion of cases attributed to heterosexual contact has increased since 1998 and as of 2005 comprised an estimated 37% of new infections
- Although they account for 3.8% of the Canadian population, estimates for 2005 suggest that Aboriginal peoples represented approximately 7.5% of individuals living with HIV/AIDS and 9% of new infections
- The implementation of HIV testing for all donations of blood has resulted in Canada's blood supply being one of the safest in the world.

Government of Canada's Response to HIV/AIDS – Three Major Initiatives

Federal Initiative
Domestic Response
(FI)

Canadian HIV
Vaccine Initiative
(CHVI)

CIDA
International Response

Government of Canada Federal AIDS Initiative Milestones



- 1983 – First federal investment in HIV/AIDS
- 1985 – First federal funding to community – AIDS Vancouver
- 1986 – Federal Centre for AIDS established
- 1988 – Federal Centre for AIDS funding

- 1990 – National AIDS Strategy I
- 1994 – National AIDS Strategy II
- 1998 – Canadian Strategy on HIV/AIDS
- 2004 – The Federal Initiative to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada

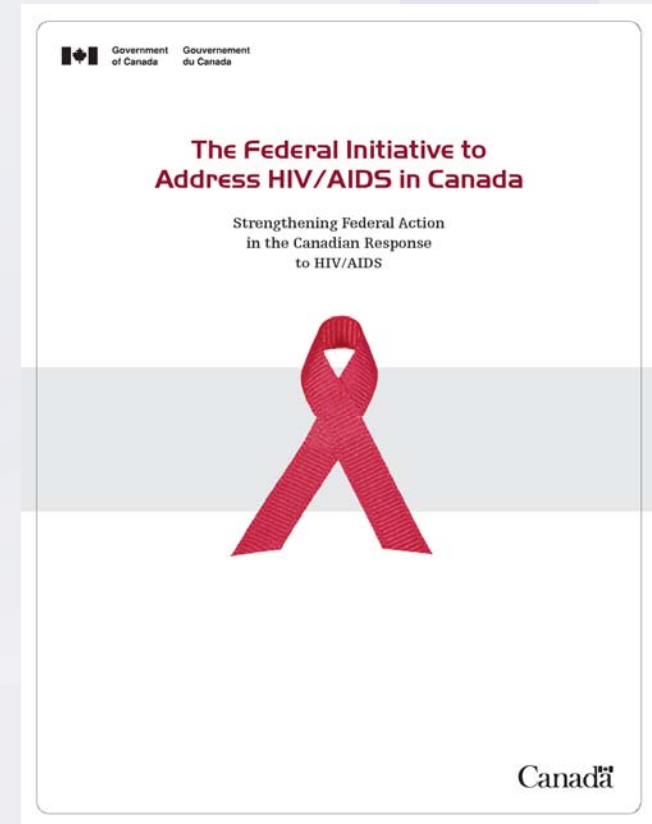
THE FEDERAL INITIATIVE TO ADDRESS HIV/AIDS IN CANADA

Outlines a the Government of Canada role:

- to strengthen domestic action
- to support global health responses to HIV/AIDS and move toward a Government of Canada approach

Sets national goals to:

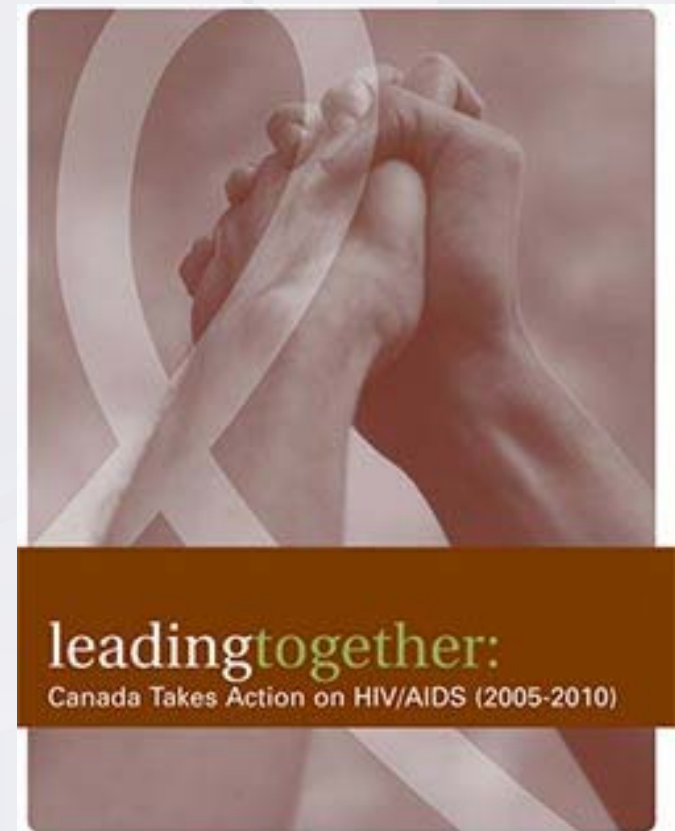
- reduce HIV
- increase access to care, treatment and support
- address root causes
- and contribute to global efforts



Leading Together: Canada Takes Action on HIV/AIDS

Vision: The end of the HIV/AIDS epidemic is in sight

A collaboratively developed action plan for Canada including all levels of government, civil society, researchers, people vulnerable to and living with HIV/AIDS



Overview of the Federal Initiative to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada 2008-09

Strategic Areas of Focus

Programs and Policy Interventions

Includes G&C funding programs

- AIDS Community Action Program
- National HIV/AIDS Funding Program
- FNIHB On-reserve Program

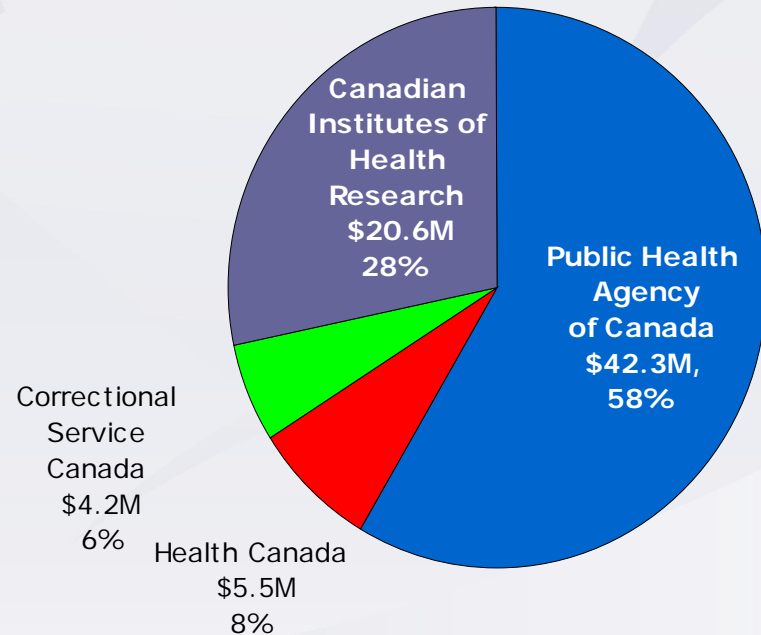
Knowledge Development

- Surveillance & Epidemiology
- Laboratory Science
- Research

Communications & Social Marketing

Coordination, Evaluation & Reporting

Global Engagement



FI Global Engagement Component - Objective

- To establish a strong, coherent health sector response to fulfill international commitments and to contribute to global efforts to address HIV.

FI Global Engagement Component Areas of Focus

- Increase Canada's leadership on efforts to coordinate and strengthen the global response through participation in, and the sharing of, our domestic practices with multilateral and international bodies;
- Strengthen support to developing country health sector responses to HIV by UNAIDS, WHO and other global partners through the provision of technical and policy expertise;
- Increase sharing and application of best practices and lessons learned between domestic and international responses; and
- Promote policy coherence across the federal government's global activities through strengthening and refining existing coordination mechanisms.

CHALLENGES

- **RESPONSIVENESS:**
 - From One Epidemic to Many
- **SUSTAINED VIGILANCE:**
 - Reinvigorating HIV Prevention
- **COMPLEXITY:**
 - Collective Action

RESPONSIVENESS:

Population Specific Status Reports

Populations identified in the Federal Initiative and Leading Together as particularly vulnerable to HIV infection:

- People Living with HIV/AIDS
- Gay men,
- People who use injection drugs,
- Prisoners,
- Women at-risk,
- Youth at-risk,
- Aboriginal people,
- People from countries where HIV is endemic

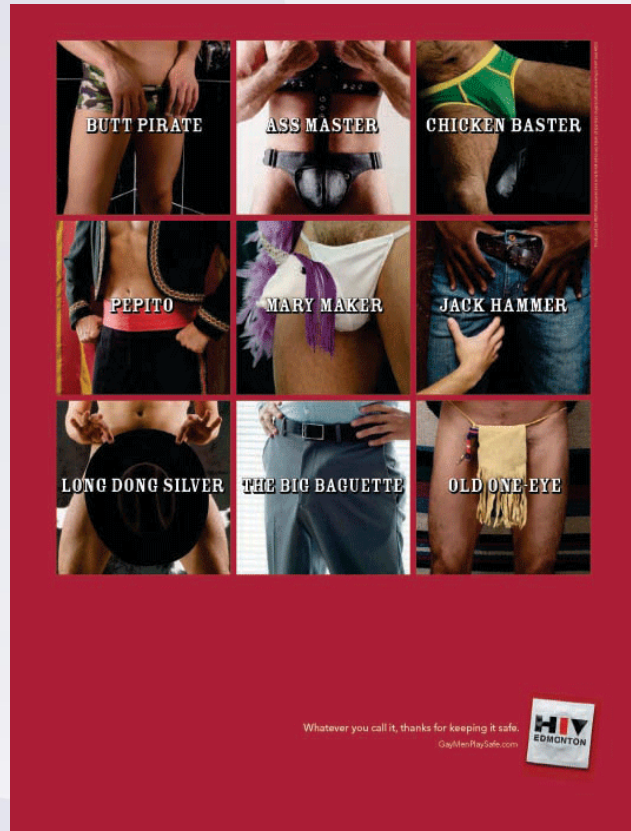
SUSTAINED VIGILANCE: Reinvigorating HIV Prevention

Social Marketing

Community Action

Harm Reduction

Co-infection



COLLECTIVE ACTION: Coordination

The logo for the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network is displayed within a white rectangular box. It features the text "Pan-Canadian Public Health Network" in a teal serif font, with a small maple leaf icon above the word "Public". Below this, the tagline "Partners in Public Health" is written in a smaller, italicized teal serif font. The background of the box has a light blue and white wavy pattern.

Pan-Canadian Public Health Network
Partners in Public Health

**The Federal/Provincial/Territorial Advisory
Committee on HIV/AIDS**

The National Aboriginal Council on HIV/AIDS

**The Assistant Deputy Ministers Committee on
HIV/AIDS**

**The Ministerial Advisory Council on Federal Initiative
to Address HIV/AIDS in Canada**

Preparing for the Future

Re-invigorate HIV prevention

- strengthening collaborative community efforts

Move towards integrated models

- of diagnosis, prevention, care, treatment and support using a population specific lens

Review and realignment of program investments

- (as appropriate) to respond to the changing environment and to deliver on results

UNIFYING PRINCIPLES

A large, light blue graphic in the background depicts several stylized human figures of various sizes and orientations, arranged in a circular pattern. The figures are simple, with rounded heads and limbs, suggesting a sense of community and unity. The overall aesthetic is clean and professional.

- **Human rights**
- **Involvement of people living with HIV/AIDS and those vulnerable to infection**
- **Determinants of health**
- **Accountability**
- **Coordination and collaboration between all stakeholders**

Conclusion



The
Government of
Canada remains
committed to a
comprehensive,
long-term
approach to HIV
and AIDS in
Canada and
internationally.

Partnership and
GIPA remain as
the foundation
for our
collective
response.