Standing Committee on Assessments

Dear Colleagues,

The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences was formed with the intention that it should become a trusted source of independent evidence-based assessments of critical health challenges affecting Canadians. Since its inception the Academy has generated at least one high quality assessment each year, culminating in the release late in 2018 of a report on Dementia for the Public Health Agency of Canada*. That report differed from its predecessors in that it was produced in an accelerated fashion over a six-month period. Previous reports have required an average of 24 months of deliberation, with several panel meetings. Presently the Academy’s Committee on Assessments is considering a new approach, which may include production of reports that are timelier or in alternative formats.

I welcome your input on potential topics. In particular, I would like to receive suggestions of important and challenging topics that may be of interest to external sponsors. It should be emphasized that the Academy cannot produce assessments in any form unless we are able to secure external funding support from sponsors who wish to work with us because of our reputation for thorough, objective, scientific consideration and independent analysis.

If you would like to discuss a potential topic please contact me directly at smacleod@bcchr.ca. If you have a well formed proposal in mind please complete the Structured Abstract for a Proposed CAHS Assessment and submit directly to me. I will follow up with you as topics are brought to the Committee for full consideration.

The committee is grateful for your input that is vital to the Academy’s future.

Stuart MacLeod PhD, FRCPC, FCAHS
Chair, Standing Committee on Assessments
Professor Emeritus, Pediatrics, University of British Columbia

*Improving the quality of life and care of persons living with dementia and their caregivers. CAHS assessment of dementia care in Canada conducted on behalf of the Public Health Agency of Canada.