

EVENT PRESS RELEASE

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CSSEM: Canadian Society for Science & Ethics in Medicine



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BC Conservatives to deliver 5000+ *Repeal Bill-36* Postcards to Legislature

VICTORIA, BC, NOVEMBER 9 – BC Conservatives John Rustad MLA and Dr. Bruce Banman will be presenting more than 5000 *Repeal Bill-36* postcards in the legislature during the morning Q & A period on Thursday, Nov 9, 2023. These postcards, signed by the public over a 7-month period and individually addressed to MLAs of all parties, demand that their elected representatives review Bill 36, now the Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA), and repeal or delay the implementation of this Act.

After the presentation in the Legislature itself, Rustad and Banman will be joined by healthcare practitioners, including BC doctors, nurses, and chiropractors, to hold a press conference on the front steps of the BC Legislature at 12 – 1 pm.

On Nov 24, 2022, one of the largest bills ever passed in British Columbia, Bill 36, was made law without Members of BC legislature having the opportunity to debate more than 50% of the bill.

Although Health Minister Adrian Dix proclaims a 4000-person consultation process, only 56 doctors responded to his survey, which was non-specific in content and implemented before Christmas break. Two separate requests for collaboration from Doctors of BC were refused by the minister.

The Act intrudes into the relationship between practitioners and their patients by removing self-regulation from the 15 healthcare colleges and delivers complete control to the government. Practitioners who swerve from government guidelines are subject to fines of up to \$500,000 and 2 years in prison. All providers must take vaccines and therapies as dictated by the Ministry of Health or risk delicensure. College advisory boards will now consist solely of government appointees. Under Bill 36/HPOA, patient records can be seized by Ministry agents without notice and a doctor's office can be closed immediately by an anonymous complaint.

“No one would willingly work under these circumstances”, says Dr. Stephen Malthouse, a BC doctor with 43 years' experience in family practice. “Those that don't leave the province will be dropping like flies from the stress. Just about everyone will lose their doctor.”

The threat of fines and punishment under this new Act will increase the exodus and retirement of experienced professionals from the province.

"I was hoping to finish my medical career here but, unfortunately, with the current provincial government passing bill 36 in November 2022 [...] it has made it impossible me to continue practising medicine in British Columbia" wrote BC physician Dr. John Cline in a farewell to his patients.

The Bill 36 postcard campaign is intended to stop the deterioration of healthcare in British Columbia. The campaign is a collaboration between BC Rising and the Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine and is supported by the BC Conservative Party. Both public and healthcare practitioners can send postcards to their MLAs, alert them to the dangers of Bill 36/HPOA, and demand that they prevent its enactment in early 2024, pending a thorough and transparent collaboration between government, providers and public.

The **BC Rising - Bill 36 Committee** is comprised of health professionals working to prevent the decline of healthcare in British Columbia. The Bill 36 Postcard Campaign was created to engage the public and their government representatives in meaningful dialogue and prevent the implementation of the *Health Professions and Occupations Act* that was passed illegally and without due consideration in November 2022. The Bill 36 Committee recognizes that untenable restrictions and penalties in the Act will drive healthcare practitioners into retirement or out of the province, thereby worsening the already overburdened healthcare system in BC.

The Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine (CSSEM) is a national association of physicians who are petitioning the BC government to allow unvaccinated doctors to return to work. The CSSEM has a judicial review pending in the BC courts to determine if public health policies were justified by the available research and if BC health officers acted in the best interests of British Columbians during the Covid crisis.

BILL 36 IS NOW LAW IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (CANADA) – DOCTORS, Nurses and Health Care Practitioners ARE LEAVING

**-- THE END OF THE DOCTOR PATIENT RELATIONSHIP – THE END OF PRIVATE MEDICAL ADVICE
– TOTAL GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF HEALTHCARE**

1. All BC practitioners must now follow health guidelines set by political appointees for their patients or risk penalties including loss of license to practice.

2. Non-compliance with Ministry therapeutic guidelines may result in fines up to \$200,000 or \$500,000 (corporations) and incarceration up to 6 months or 2 years.

3. Anonymous complaints to the Colleges can result in summary suspension of licensure to practice before the complaint is investigated.

4. Appointees chosen by politicians may now enter a healthcare practice, seize patient records and restrict access to that facility without a warrant or court order.

5. Refusal to accept all Ministry mandated vaccines and therapies will likely result in de-licensure

6. College advisory boards will now consist of government appointees only

7. All “self-regulatory” healthcare professions in BC will be governed entirely by politicians and their agents, using appointees selected by the Ministry of Health.

8. The Cabinet and the Minister of Health can adopt as law in BC any regulations, codes, standards or rules enacted in foreign jurisdictions or international bodies.

9. The new Health Professions and Occupations Act requires further elucidation of undefined terms used in the Act, such as “false or misleading information”, which may be defined by appointees at their discretion, lacking consultation with health professionals.

Bill 36 was one of the largest bills ever passed in British Columbia, consisting of 645 sections and 276 pages, that received royal assent on November 24, 2022. 233 sections were debated and discussed but 412 were not, breaking their own Standing Order of the BC Constitution Act.

www.cssem.org/bill36

https://www.cssem.org/files/ugd/80db6e_8fe9ab6da3e54c54afe8f779283468cc.pdf (cover Letter)

EVENT AT THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PARLIAMENT IN CANADA ON BILL 36

Thurs Nov 9th 9am to 1pm for BC doctors and health professionals.

Backgrounder For Media Kit Nov 9th 2023 Severe Health Care Restrictions Coming to a Province Near You!

BC Healthcare Practitioners Alert

The Government of BC Health Professions & Occupations Act RESTRICTS

- All BC practitioners must now... their patients or risk penalties.
- Non-compliance with Ministry \$200,000 or \$500,000 (corp) or \$50,000 (indiv) for 1st offence.
- Anonymous complaints to the Ministry of Health.
- Appointees chosen by political records and restrict access to professional associations.
- Refusal to accept all Ministry delinquencies.
- College advisory boards will be replaced by the Minister.
- All "self-regulatory" health and their agents, using support of the Cabinet and the Minister.
- The new Health Professions and Occupations Act will be defined by appointees at the discretion of the Minister.
- The new Health Professions and Occupations Act will be defined by appointees at the discretion of the Minister.

Bill 36: Health Professions & Occupations Act

- Staff shortages - Health providers leaving BC
- Long wait times - Delays can kill patients
- E.R. shutdowns

WARNING: Politician interference with health care

Take Action Now!
Mail the available postcard or a letter to your MLA

Call Now! 2-min Recorded Bill 36 Info Hotline - (604) 659-9476
Info @ downloadable materials (postcards): www.CSSEM.org/bill36

YOUR HEALTHCARE IS AT RISK!

WHAT IS BILL 36?
Health Professions & Occupation Act

Read Bill 36
The BC Government quickly passed Bill 36 on Nov. 24, 2022. Only 233 of the 645 clauses were discussed before they passed the bill, violating their own Standing Order s. 84(1)(2) and the BC Constitution Act (1996), s. 45.

Call Now! 2-min Recorded Bill 36 Info Hotline: (604) 659-9476

Impacts to Healthcare Professionals

Enables Government to:

- Conduct warrantless search and seizure of property of health offices, s. 511, 506, 3a-d
- Only Government appointees on Colleges & Boards, s. 245, 246, 486
- Dictate healthcare services with unprecedented power, s. 222
- Demand access to private clinical records, s. 131, 224
- Adopt registration codes from foreign countries, s. 255, 223
- Issue fines up to \$200,000 and/or imprisonment up to 6 months for "misleading information" not in agreement with government, s. 34, 518, a, b, c

Impacts to Public

- Staff shortages - Health providers leaving BC
- E.R. shutdowns
- Long wait times - increased health risk

How Can You Help?

- Mail a postcard
- Poster - in your office
- Educate self & others

On November 24th 2022 the Province of BC passed one of the largest bills ever passed in BC: **Bill 36 now known as The Health Professions and Occupations ACT /HPOA**. John Rustad, MLA for Vanderhoof, was the ONLY MLA who voted against the Bill and who was responsible for bringing this to the attention of those concerned citizens. The BC Rising and Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine (CSSEM) groups have since then devised a public campaign to educate not only the citizens of BC but also the professionals. NO ONE seems to know about this ACT and its severe implications until this campaign was launched in April of this year.

The HPOA is comprised of 645 sections that when printed is 3 inches thick! Only 232 clauses were read in the BC Legislature and the remaining 412 sections were **not discussed or debated** before the ACT received royal assent. This violated the BC government's own Standing Orders 84 (1) and (2) of the BC Constitution Act 1996, s45. Premier David Eby invoked this early closure denying politicians, health-care providers and concerned constituents the ability to voice their concerns.

The new Act compresses 15 Health Professional Colleges into more or less 6 College boards, with all board members being directly or indirectly appointed by the minister. When challenged, Health Minister Adrian Dix replied: "The Minister appoints because the Minister appoints". Previously approximate 50% of these College boards were health professionals elected by their membership and now 100% will be appointed. This makes the board ripe for political interference.

The Act allows the government to suddenly seize a patient's records, close a doctor's office without investigation, and persecute a doctor based on an anonymous complaint. This will affect doctors, naturopaths, nurses, chiropractors, dentists, optometrists, and all other healthcare professionals in BC.

The BC Health Minister Adrian Dix says that 4000 Health Care professionals were consulted throughout BC over that past years through the Harry Cayton Report. For example Doctors of BC were given a time frame for stake holders submission of two weeks during a holiday period. They got 56 responses which is not representative of the membership.

Why be concerned?

Under the guise of "modernization" and "streamlining", the new Act made sweeping changes, which ultimately violates the doctor-patient relationship threatening an already disintegrating healthcare system in BC.

We need to remember that Governments are in place to only provide funding for health care.

Governments have no education or background to ban or mandate medical treatments or procedures.

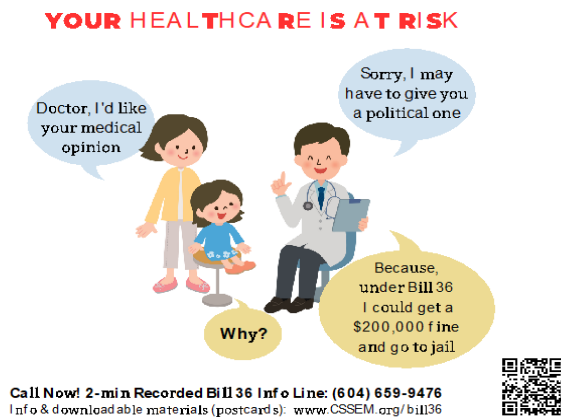
Healthcare workers and colleges need to be regulated but not to be interfered with by politicians, bureaucrats and lobbyists. Health care needs to be provided by health care professionals who are trained in their science of medicine to provide informed consent and personalized health care for their patients and their families for the best outcome of the patient. This is the definition of personalized medicine.

Once enacted fully, Bill 36 will be the final nail in the BC healthcare coffin. Already practitioners are taking stress leave, forced retirement and leaving the province to be able to practice autonomously. BC will not be able to attract health care professionals due to these penalties.

Offices and walk-in clinics are closing, while the long wait times in BC Emergency Departments, struggling to remain open, are causing patients to leave without being seen by a physician. In Dec 2022 (a CBC report) claimed that rural Emergency Rooms around BC were closed for an equivalent of 4 months.

Despite irrefutable evidence that Covid shots do not prevent transmission, it is estimated that 5000 fewer nurses and care aids, have not returned to practice due to sick leave, disability or vaccine status, while every other province, except Nova Scotia, has welcomed back their unvaxxed workers. In May 2023, ER doctors at the Surrey Memorial Hospital wrote an open letter warning of the dire hospital conditions and advised patients not to come to their ER for treatment. In a show of progressive action, Adrian Dix, the BC health Minister, arranged signage and a ground-breaking ceremony for new Surrey facilities. All equipment and signs were quietly removed 2 days later.

While the BC government continues to deceive the province with promises of cash infusions, the fast tracking of foreign workers, and shipping cancer patients to the US for costly treatment because of understaffing, there is pushback by BC Rising and the Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine (CSSEM). These two organizations, comprised of lay persons and doctors respectively, have created something effective: *The Bill 36 Postcard Campaign*.



So far over 3000 postcards have been signed and mailed by BC citizens to their MLA, demanding that Bill 36 be repealed or, at a minimum, allowed to be debated in the Legislature. More cards are being sent in daily as people realize that Bill 36 will prevent them from seeing a doctor or any healthcare practitioner to receive high-quality, private, personalized advice. We need thousands more.

The term Bill 36 has continued to be used because it was also part of the recall Premier David Eby campaign that took place earlier this year so the public is familiar with the term. However the Bill has now been passed **but NOT yet enacted**, to form the HPOA. It is felt that with huge public pressure that the Government of BC can be forced to bring HPOA back to the table or better yet scrap it entirely and garner the support and input from all of the Health Care Professionals in BC to draft a new one.

Campbell River based Aaron Gunn in his documentary "Waiting to Die" states that in Canada we already have a 50- tiered Health Care system and explains the reasons why patients are dying while waiting for Health Care. It expertly explains how 27 other countries with Universal Health Care have highly effective hybrid systems combining public and private pay, which is NOT the US based system. These are some of the solutions that are being provided to the politicians.

Patients are Less Safe:

Here are some of the concerns: (see references to clauses in the Bill 36 in Cover Letter www.cssem.org/Bill36)

- The entire Bill is open to interpretation and does not define the terms "misinformation, misleading or false information" and who decides? The government is allowed to define and influence "false or misleading information". The minister may unilaterally make

regulations regarding what information must be provided by health care providers to both patients and the public

- The Health Minister dictates the construction of health care colleges and appoints directly or indirectly all board members of these colleges, as well as the director of discipline. At no point is the minister obliged to consult with the front-line health care workers in the making of these regulations, appointments and construction of these colleges. If front line workers are not consulted this will ultimately make patients less safe.
- This same partisan-appointed director of discipline can independently appoint discipline members, consultants, experts and specialists. When questioned about this dubious appointment Dix answered: "The minister appoints because the minister appoints."
- A complaint can be filed against the Health Care Provider based on a media or a public source and a formal investigation can be initiated even before a complaint has been made against a registrant.
- A regulatory complaint with personal and protected information can be disclosed to the public.
- Speaking out against policies which lack scientific basis would hold a health care provider liable on conviction of a \$25,000 fine, six-month imprisonment or both.

Bill 36 is destroying personalized health care and informed consent making it so that patients and their families are ultimately less safe.

Freedom of Speech in Medicine is Gone

Dr. Chris Milburn MD runs a yearly conference in Nova Scotia www.FreeSpeechinMedicine.com. He along with Jordan Peterson state that free speech in medicine is gone in Canada. See the video of Dr. Ben Turner MD, President of the Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine on Bill 36. www.cssem.org/bill36/media. Information about Bill 36 is censored from the Legacy Media and many organizations are refusing to help with dispensing of this important information.

You Can Make a Difference

- Go to www.cssem.org/bill36 and print, sign and send in a Post Card to your own MLA.
- Share with 7 or more friends including your own health care professionals.
- Volunteer at a Bill 36 table event. www.bcrising.ca/committee/Bill-36
- Meet with your MLA and express your concern. Request that they relay your concerns **in person** back to Premier David Eby and Health Minister Adrian Dix at the Legislature opening this fall Oct 3rd.

HPOA takes censorship to an unprecedented level of control. The government will decide what is “misinformation”. The Ministry of Health will unilaterally make regulations regarding which therapeutic options can be provided to patients and will become the sole arbitrator of what is “false or misleading”.

There is little doubt that BC will be left with government-controlled potentially pharma-based disease-care medicine on steroids. Where is patient centered care in all this? That is if you can find a family doctor without driving to Alberta. BC is being used to implement a system that can gradually spread to all provinces resulting in severe health restrictions coming to a province near you.

PLEASE DO ONE SMALL THING and become an activist and help get rid of Bill 36/HPOA and bring back “safety” to Health Care. Share this two minute concise message 604-659-9476.

Ingrid Pincott/BC Rising/Canadian Society for Science and Ethics in Medicine
(All references are at www.cssem.org/bill36/coverletter)

Addendum for Nov 9th Legislature Event SAVE BC Health Care: Reject Bill 36/HPOA
(HPOA Health Professions and Occupations ACT)

Time Line of Bill 36 Awareness Campaign by BC Rising

Nov 24th 2022 Bill 36 Third Reading obtained Royal Assent, Mr. John Rustad only MLA who voted against the Bill and informed ?Media

March 2023 BC Rising Bill 36 Committee formed to create a campaign, comprised of Dr. Hsaing, Dr. Malthouse, Dr. Pincott ND (retired) and Dr. Norm Detillieux DC along with Erica and Lisa from BC Rising.

April 28th 2023: Bill 36 Public Postcard signing and Professional Health package launched at Naturopathic Physicians Conference.

May 4th 2023Mr. John Rustad presented a Petition against Bill 36 containing 17,000 signatures along with Press Conference: Dr. Hsaing, Dr. Kind, Dr. Sclater a few of the doctors presenting.

June to Nov: For the past seven months volunteer HUBS of Bill 36 activists collecting over 5000 signed cards at local events such as farmers markets, health shows, street fares and health food stores are now being presented en masse.

Nov 9th 2023: Presentation of these 5000 plus cards by Mr. Rustad and Dr. Bruce Banman during Question Period followed by a Press Conference with 8 Health Care Professionals Speaking. Over 35,000 cards have been printed and are on their way to MLA's all over BC.

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There is no transparency with this ACT.

No one knows about it.

Affects all professions in BC (See Cover Letter)

15 Self Regulated Health Care professional boards are being amalgamated into 6.

This campaign is Shining a Light in the Dark: to the public first as well as the professionals, the detrimental effects of this HPOA.

Government says it consulted with 4000 health care professionals, there is no proof of this.

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This is the largest Bill to ever get passed in the BC Legislature

Consists of 645 sections and 276 pages; only 233 sections were debated and discussed, 412 of the sections WERE NOT DISCUSSED OR DEBATED before getting royal assent.

Health Professionals are not engaged in this process, just told to accept the Bill without question.

Health Professionals leaving the province and the country or retiring.

8000 BC Health Care professionals were not hired back once the pandemic ended, the only other province was Nova Scotia and the only two in the world!

The ACT is very vague: misleading information not defined nor is "informed consent" and patient centered care not mentioned once.

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The Ask of the Government

Scrap the HPOA and collaborate with all Health Care Professionals

Health Care Workers on the front lines are ones who know best, how to fix the system not bureaucrats

Empower Health Care Workers to do what they do best: Patient care with optimal outcomes