

**Petition to the Government of Canada**

**Whereas:**

- Statistics Canada cites that approximately 4.8 million Canadians do not have a regular doctor;
- Despite the number of physicians in Canada growing, the number of Canadians without a regular doctor still continues to be a significant concern;
- 92 per cent of physicians work in urban centres, while just 8 per cent work in rural areas; and
- Rural and remote communities have particular challenges to attracting physicians and other health care workers
- North Island communities Port Hardy, Port McNeill, and Alert Bay have had consecutive overnight closures of hospital emergency departments due to staffing shortages
- The North Island Campbell River outpatient lab has periodically been forced to reduce services, redirecting walk-in patients to Courtenay, due to a lack of hospital staff
- Port Hardy and Port McNeill hospitals have a 40% vacancy rate of staff nurses and North Island

**Therefore, we the undersigned, Citizens of Canada, call upon on the Government of Canada to Work with all the provinces and territories in Canada to come to a meaningful solution to Canada's family medical professional shortage**

| NAME  | SIGNATURE | ADDRESS (city, province and postal code) |
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**PLEASE SEND COMPLETED PETITION:** Rachel Blaney, MP / House of Commons / Ottawa, ON / K1A 0A6 (Please use an envelope. No postage required.)