

Final Report

Mission to Australia and New Zealand
July 27 – August 1 and August 9 – 12, 2005



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Alberta Health and Wellness Minister Iris Evans was invited to speak to the Australian College of Health Service Executives National Congress in August. As key note speaker she was able to showcase Third Way initiatives being done in Alberta. It was also an opportunity to receive feedback from international health officials on where they thought our province was leading and succeeding.

The trip also provided opportunities to exchange ideas and experiences with health officials in Australia and New Zealand. Both countries have developed health care systems that integrate private and public service.

MISSION OBJECTIVES:

- To meet with policy makers and health care providers and discuss solutions to health care concerns.

OUTCOMES:

Minister Evans met with government officials and health care workers to establish relationships and allow a closer examination of what was working well in their system and the challenges they have overcome.

The Minister met with: Australia's Federal Health Minister Tony Abbott; South Australia Minister of Health Lea Stevens; South Australia Minister for Education and Children's Services Jane Lomax-Smith; New Zealand's Minister of Health and Minister for Food Safety Annette King; Director General New South Wales Health Department Robyn Kruk; a team from Australia's National Prescribing Service Limited; and a team from the District Health Boards of New Zealand.

Finally, the Minister was able to further explore PHARMAC, the Pharmaceutical Management Agency of New Zealand with a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer Wayne McNee.