



**Society of Rural Physicians of Canada**  
**Soci t  de la m decine rurale du Canada**

**www.srpc.ca/ - 877-276-1949**

**News Release:**

**For Immediate Release**

**23 March 2011**

Federal Budget 2011: Need for a Rural Health Strategy Remains

Shawville, March 23, 2011 The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada today reacted to the federal budget and to the potential of a federal election by renewing their call for a Rural Health Strategy.

The SRPC welcomed the acknowledgement in the budget of the need to support the rural and remote healthcare workforce. For many years the SRPC has called for an integrated Rural Health Strategy at the federal level. This budget, as well as other recent announcements by the government demonstrate that action at the federal level is possible if the will to do so is present.

“ It is heartening to note the attention given to this issue by all federal parties, and it is our hope that this issue will engage rural communities and the political process should there be a federal election in the near future,” said the SRPC president, Dr. John Wootton.

The SRPC will continue advocate for rural communities and the healthcare workforce that serves them, and press for an integrated approach which addresses the underlying health challenges facing rural Canada.

-30-

Contacts:

Dr John Wootton

877-276-1949

About the Society of Rural Physicians of Canada

The Society of Rural Physicians of Canada (SRPC) is the national voice of Canadian rural physicians. Founded in 1992, the SRPC's mission is to provide leadership for rural physicians and to promote sustainable conditions and equitable health care for rural communities. On behalf of its members and the Canadian public, SRPC performs a wide variety of functions, such as developing and advocating health delivery mechanisms, supporting rural doctors and communities in crisis, promoting and delivering rural medical education, encouraging and facilitating research into rural health issues, and fostering communication among rural physicians and other groups with an interest in rural health care. The SRPC is a voluntary professional organization representing over 3,000 of Canada's rural physicians and comprising 5 regional divisions spanning the country.

Reference <http://www.srpc.ca>