

# 2015 Federal Election – Have Your Say

The Schizophrenia Society of Canada, as part of our work through the Canadian Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health, is calling on all of the major political parties in this current election to support a five-year \$50 million **Mental Health Innovation Fund**. While the current government chose not to invest in this important initiative, we are confident that the next government in Ottawa will do so, with your help.

## **What Are We Asking You To Do?**

### 1. Familiarize yourself with the initiative

The **Mental Health Innovation Fund** would support the identification of and spread of evidence-based mental health programs, resources and services that we know are effective at the community level. An example would be the First Episode Clinics of varying sizes that exist in select centres throughout Canada. The Fund would also have a clear mandate to encourage the dissemination and implementation of best and promising practices of services, supports and resources to improve health outcomes, and establish and report on performance indicators.

Click [here](#) for further information about the **Mental Health Innovation Fund**.

### 2. Email your local candidates

Take a moment to send an email to the local candidates in your area and ask them very simply – *Will you support the establishment of a five-year \$50 million **Mental Health Innovation Fund**?* Don't forget to tell them a little bit about yourself and your connection to schizophrenia.

To find which electoral district you live in, go to:

<http://www.elections.ca/content2.aspx?section=can&document=index&lang=e>

Contact information for the three major party candidates can be found at:

<http://www.liberal.ca/candidates/>

<http://www.conservative.ca/team/>

<http://www.ndp.ca/candidates>

### 3. Talk to your local candidates

If one of the candidates in your electoral district comes to your door canvassing, again ask them – *Will you support the establishment of a five-year \$50 million **Mental Health Innovation Fund**?* If they would like more information, you can always send them the link [here](#).

Consider attending one of the local all candidates meetings. They can be a great forum in which to meet the people running for office in your community and of course if you do go, take the time to ask each of them - *Will you support the establishment of a five-year \$50 million **Mental Health Innovation Fund**?*