



Health Council of Canada Exchanges Insights with Kazakhstan Health Officials

March 2, 2010 – A 13-member delegation of visiting health and government officials from Kazakhstan convened with the Health Council of Canada today to learn not only about the structure of Canada’s publicly-funded health care system, but also about the dynamics and challenges involved in ensuring its long-term effectiveness and sustainability. The group examined similarities and differences between the Canadian and Kazakhstan systems and the challenges each is facing, starting with the realization that the percentage of GDP expended on health in Canada is 10%, whereas it is 2.7% in Kazakhstan.

In response to the Health Council’s presentation, Kazakhstan officials were particularly interested in:

- How Canada is developing and funding e-health records;
- The approaches we are taking to create receptivity and engage around needed reforms;
- Examples of best practices Canada has to offer, and from which others can learn; and
- Areas where Canada is improving system design in health care delivery.

The representatives are on a tour organized by the Canadian Society for International Health, based in Ottawa. The Health Council of Canada wishes the delegation a productive and successful visit. Today’s meeting follows a visit to the Health Council of Canada office by a delegation from Russia in the Fall 2009.

