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#### The Debate

#### The universal publicly funded healthcare system in Canada has been under stress for the last decade as a result of the growing cost of healthcare and healthcare technology. After working through the ‘Sicko Movie Assignment’ and discussing the recent healthcare debate in the United States, your class will debate the following:

#### Be it resolved, Canada should have a two-tiered healthcare

#### system that creates a private for-profit option for Canadians.

**AFFIRMATIVE**

CONTENTION: Private for-profit healthcare already exists in Canada and it has not caused the dramatic evils many say that it would; we should continue to explore what it can do to support Canadians

EVIDENCE: It's a crucial part of the system. Canada spent an estimated $142 billion on health care in 2005, or $4,411 per person, according to Health Care in Canada 2006, a report released by the Canadian Institute for Health Information. After taking inflation into account, this amounts to almost three times what was spent in 1975.

Of that, just over $98.8 billion was spent by governments delivering public health care. About $43.2 billion was spent on private health care. (p. 8)

"The vast majority of Canadian doctors believe there is an urgent need to fix Canada's health care system," outgoing association president Robert Ouellet said later at a news conference at the organization's annual convention, which is being held in Saskatoon this year. (p. 11)

\*perhaps a new contention???

**NEGATIVE**

CONTENTION: Private for-profit healthcare in Canada is a clear violation of the Canada Health Act – legislation passed by a democratically elected government which has not been repealed.

EVIDENCE: All administration of provincial health insurance must be carried out by a public authority on a non-profit basis. They also must be accountable to the province or territory, and their records and accounts are subject to audits. (p. 1) \*could find actual legislative jargon

**Public Administration (section 8)**
The public administration criterion, set out in section 8 of the CHA, applies to provincial and territorial health care insurance plans. The intent of the public administration criterion is that the provincial and territorial health care insurance plans are administered and operated on a non-profit basis by a public authority, which is accountable to the provincial or territorial government for decision making on benefit levels and services, and whose records and accounts are publicly audited.

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hcs-sss/medi-assur/cha-lcs/overview-apercu-eng.php>