<u>Arthritis in Quebec – A letter to Quebec electoral candidates</u> (Email sent out date: September 7, 2018)

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Dear Electoral Candidate,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in Quebec.

Arthritis has devastating and debilitating effects on the lives of the approximately one million Quebec residents.

Arthritis is the leading cause of disability and work disability in Quebec. About a quarter of the Quebec residents living with arthritis between 20 to 54 years of age are not in the labour force because of their arthritis.

Arthritis Consumer Experts members in Quebec are working together to ensure people living with arthritis receive the best care through models of care. We view government as an essential partner, to help ensure the models are functioning at an optimal level. This translates into better and more efficient care for patients.

Arthritis Consumer Experts is asking Quebec's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of Quebec residents and improve arthritis prevention, treatment and care. We look forward to your Party's response to our attached survey titled: "Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in Quebec".

We have also included an arthritis information fact sheet titled "Arthritis Consumer Experts – Arthritis in Quebec Fact Sheet" for your reference.

Regards,

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