

**COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

***Will the NAFTA restrict Canada's ability to manage its health-care system?***

No. The NAFTA does not limit the ability of Canadian governments to develop or maintain health or social programs. The NAFTA specifically protects law enforcement, correctional services and the following social services: income security or insurance, social security or insurance, social welfare, public education, public training, health and child care.

***Will the NAFTA regulate or in any way affect health care and other locally based services?***

No. Health care is a provincial responsibility. Provinces can decide if they wish to have foreign companies provide additional services to basic health care. Under the Canada Health Act, basic health care must be provided on a non-profit basis. If a province wishes to privatize any service related to health care, it may establish regulations requiring that the service be provided only by Canadian-owned firms.

***Will our trading partners regard medicare as an unfair subsidy and try to take action against Canada?***

All Canadians are covered by health-care insurance. Our system provides for universal access. Such systems are not subject to retaliatory duties under existing trade laws.