

## 7. Naylor, Kirby, Walker

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Three excellent reports have recommended public health improvements in the aftermath of SARS.

Dean David Naylor's federal report recommends a Canadian "CDC north" supported by federal initiatives and transfer payments to help the federal government and the provinces cooperate in the fight against infectious disease. A key contribution of this report is a blueprint for a stronger federal presence in a supportive and co-operative posture towards the provinces rather than an operational or confrontational role.

Senator Michael Kirby's report recommends a similar federal approach including a communicable disease control fund to help the provinces build up their disease surveillance and control capacity.

Dean David Walker's Interim Ontario report recommends a series of measures to meet the problems in Ontario's health care and public health systems demonstrated by SARS. More recommendations are expected in the final report.

These three reports share a common vision for the renewal of our public health systems through increased resources, better federal-provincial and inter-agency cooperation, and system improvements. They bear close study and great consideration. Their methodology and approach are sound and their recommendations are solidly based in their respective expertise. Based on the evidence it has seen, the Commission endorses the major findings and recommendations of all three studies.

The Commission comes to its task from a different perspective. An outsider to the medical, scientific and governmental communities, it is not an expert body. It would be inappropriate to duplicate the work of the earlier reports in their fields of expertise. The best contribution the Commission can make, particularly at this interim stage, is to focus on the evidence gathered thus far and the lessons and principles learned from SARS that emerge from that body of evidence in respect of Ontario's public health system.