

Futuro Health CEO Highlights Workforce Solutions at G7 Canada Brain Economy Summit

- Van Ton-Quinlivan Brings U.S. Expertise to Global Conversation on Brain Health and Problem Gambling -

(SACRAMENTO, Calif.) – June 25, 2025 – Van Ton-Quinlivan, CEO of Futuro Health, contributed U.S. workforce development expertise to the global stage at the G7 Canada Brain Economy Summit (CBES) in Alberta, Calgary. The summit convened international leaders from government, academia, business, and civil society to address the rising global imperative of strengthening “brain capital”—a term referring to the combined value of brain health and brain skills—as a key pillar of economic resilience and innovation.

Ton-Quinlivan spoke on the Gaming and Gambling Policy panel that addressed the “brain negative” impacts of Problem Gambling (PG). With 2–4 million Americans expected to experience a gambling disorder in their lifetime—and one in six of those attempting suicide—she underscored the urgent need for prevention and early intervention strategies alongside treatment.

“The best healthcare is preventing the disease and its severity in the first place,” said Ton-Quinlivan. “We need to strengthen the workforce pipeline not only for those who provide treatment but also for the vital certificated roles that provide upstream prevention and intervention.”



As CEO of Futuro Health, a national nonprofit committed to growing the allied health workforce, Ton-Quinlivan outlined how scalable, community-based solutions can bridge healthcare workforce shortages by equipping untapped talents with the credentials and qualifications to enter their first or next healthcare career.

Through partnerships with employers, public agencies, and education providers, Futuro Health creates guided programs that lead to in-demand healthcare careers—including in critical certificated roles in behavioral health such as Peer Support Specialists, Community Health Workers, and Substance Use Disorder Specialists. These roles can serve as stepping-stones to advanced mental health degrees and licensure that address the nation’s pressing shortage of therapists.

(more)

With global productivity losses from brain-related health issues estimated at \$8.5 trillion annually, the summit spotlighted the profound and growing burden of conditions such as neurodegenerative diseases, depression, and addiction. Organizers emphasized the urgent need for increased investment and cross-sector collaboration to build brain health resilience and drive inclusive economic growth.

Ton-Quinlivan noted regional momentum in the U.S., citing Houston's recent declaration to become a 'brain economy' hub, buoyed by a \$3 billion state investment in brain-related research and innovation.

To learn more about the G7 Canada Brain Economy Summit, visit canadianbrain.ca.

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About Futuro Health

Futuro Health addresses the critical shortage in healthcare workers through its national nonprofit mission to improve the health and well-being of communities by growing the largest network of allied health workers in the nation. We empower individuals by providing them with the credentials and qualifications for their first or next healthcare career, making education journeys into allied health careers possible. By building the talent that employers need and creating a path to opportunity that workers want, we are transforming lives and communities. Visit www.futurohealth.org.