

# Improving Access to Health Care

change  
starts  
here



Our health is important to us all.

We know that there are challenges to our health care system and that is why we created Health Accord NL – an opportunity to reimagine the health care system.

While Health Accord NL concludes its work, we are taking immediate steps to improve the health care system, in particular access to primary health care.

## A Team Approach

Community-based teams are the foundation required to transform Primary Health Care.

The team approach will increase health outcomes and increase job satisfaction for health professionals.

We will build off the success of team-based care clinics like those developed to address specific needs in communities, such as those in:

- + Bonavista
- + Botwood
- + Burin
- + Corner Brook
- + Gander
- + Grand Falls-Windsor
- + St. Anthony
- + Stephenville

These clinics will help meet patient needs and be staffed by teams of health care professionals, including Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners.

- + Four new Collaborative Team Clinics.
- + Existing Collaborative Team Clinic on Mundy Pond Road will move to an expanded facility on Pippy Place, and will accept more patients.
- + Walk-in clinic will open on Mundy Pond Road on November 15 for those without a Family Physician and in need of non-emergency care.

Transforming our health care system... **for the future**

- + We will continue to look for opportunities to expand this approach throughout the province.
- + Province wide, to work in concert with existing emergency services, we will increase virtual care services to assist with the provision of urgent care.

## Focus on Health Care Professionals

We will strengthen our efforts to recruit and retain health care professionals to ensure a better health care system that meets the needs of our residents.

- + Health Human Resource Plan will assist in planning for the future needs of the health care system.
- + Provincial Recruitment and Retention Office.
- + Financial support to new Family Physicians for the first two years of their practice.
- + \$100,000 to new recent Family Practice Physicians who open a new family practice or join an existing one and stay for five years.
- + Streamlined pathways to help International Medical Graduates and other international graduate health professionals to work in Newfoundland and Labrador.
- + Three new ambulances and crews will be added in Eastern Health, which will mean an additional 24.9 permanent, full-time equivalent paramedic positions.
- + Dedicated mental health supports to meet the specialized needs of frontline paramedics and other frontline responders.
- + 12 new Primary Care Paramedic seats.
- + 25 per cent increase in Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program seats.
- + Commitment to further increase the number of graduates from our Licensed Practical Nursing Programs by 40 per cent, and Personal Care Attendant Programs by 20 per cent.



- + Redesign of Health Sciences Centre Emergency Room to improve patient flow, and facilitate integration with the new mental health and addictions facility.

## Investment

- + \$1.4 million per year for Bursary Programs (Medical Resident Bursary Program, Medical Student Bursary Program, and Travelling Fellowship Program)
- + \$4.5 million per year for Family Practice Renewal Program
- + \$7.7 million for Improving Access to Health Care Initiatives
- + \$25 million for the redesign of the Health Sciences Emergency Room