
President's Letter

April 30, 2015



Wendy Graham, MD, CCFP
President

AGM to provide update on negotiations, progress on provincial EMR *Members to vote on by-law amendments*

Dear Colleagues:

I invite you to attend our upcoming Annual General Meeting on June 6, 2015, to debate resolutions and help the Association set policy that will shape the future direction for the NLMA as we enter into 2016. The business session will be held in Salons C & D of the Sheraton Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's.

During the business session, members will be updated on negotiations, goals and objectives of the *2013-2018 Strategic Plan*, changes to the provincial on-call program, progress of the provincial EMR system and the financial health of the organization.

Following the business session, we will hold our annual President's Dinner in the Fort William Ballroom (Salon B) with cocktails beginning at 7 pm in Pre-Function Area B. The event will include the presentation of honorary awards and the installation of incoming president, Dr. Jonathan Greenland.

Register and Attend

To facilitate the ordering of food, you must pre-register to attend the President's Dinner. The [2015 NLMA AGM Registration Form](#) included in this package is also available on our website at www.nlma.nl.ca. The early bird registration date is **May 15**. The deadline to purchase tickets for the President's Dinner is end of day on **Monday, June 1**. Tickets to this event will not be sold on site. No-shows will be billed unless we receive notice of cancellation by 5 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2015.

GP Section Meeting

The annual meeting of the NLMA's GP Section will be a working lunch that includes a presentation of the NLMA's negotiations proposals to the provincial government regarding primary health care initiatives. The GP Section Meeting will begin at **11:00 am** in Salons C & D with lunch provided. All interested family physicians are encouraged to attend.

Resolutions

Members are encouraged to submit resolutions by May 29 for debate during the business session. Resolutions will also be accepted from the floor and debated, time permitting. Delegates must be present in person with their seconder. Resolutions can be emailed to Lynn Barter, Associate Executive Director, at lbarter@nlma.nl.ca or faxed to (709) 726-7525.

By-law Amendments

Members will also be asked to vote on amendments to our bylaws that support our new governance structure. The proposed amendments have been drafted to clarify wording of by-laws governing the replacement of a Board member unable to complete their term and to fine-tune the annual Board of Directors election timeline. Members will be given the

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**Newfoundland &
Labrador Medical
Association**
164 MacDonald Dr.
St. John's, NL
A1A 4B3
(709) 726-7424
or 1-800-563-2003
Fax: (709) 726-7525
or 726-7456
www.nlma.nl.ca
president@nlma.nl.ca

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opportunity to vote on the amendments in person at the AGM on June 6 or by proxy. A proxy form is included with this letter. To assist members, the proposed wording is listed below with changes in bold print. The current NLMA By-Laws can be viewed on the NLMA website at website at www.nlma.nl.ca/About/ByLaws/.

As per Chapter 23.1 of the *NLMA By-laws*, the following amendments are proposed in bold:

14.2.2.2 Vacancy

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- 14.2.2.2.1 If a vacancy occurs on the Board on account of the death or resignation of a member-at-large, or for any other reason, the Board shall hold a by-election, provided that the Board may, instead of holding a by-election, **appoint** a member in good standing to fill the vacancy if the vacancy occurs **within six (6) months of the end of the term of the director whose position has become vacant**. The member elected in a by-election shall complete the unexpired term of the director whose position had become vacant.
- 14.2.2.2.2 A member **appointed by the Board to fill a vacancy or a member** elected in a by-election may run for office as a member-at-large when such term is expired, and such term shall not be applied should such member be duly elected to serve his or her own full term as a member-at-large of the Board.

15.2.3 Nominating Committee

- 15.2.3.1 Not less than three (3) months prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting, the Board shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of four (4) members of the Association who are not members of the Board and a Past- President who shall be chairperson, and who shall together constitute the Nominating Committee for the purpose of nominating Officers and members-at-large of the Board. The Nominating Committee shall submit a report **to the Board of those members elected to be an Officer of the Association or elected to be a member-at-large of the Board at least thirty (30) days** prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting and the Board shall forthwith forward the report of the Nominating Committee to the members of the Association.

Regards,



Wendy Graham, MD, CCFP
President

Encl (3)