
President's Letter

August 2, 2013



**Yordan Karaivanov, MD
President**

NLMA appoints new Executive Director

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to inform you that Mr. Robert Thompson has been appointed to the position of Executive Director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association, effective September 1, 2013.

Prior to his appointment as NLMA Executive Director, Mr. Thompson served as the Clerk of the Executive Council and Secretary to Cabinet for the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador.

On behalf of the NLMA Board of Directors and all physicians of the province, I would like to formally welcome Mr. Thompson to our Association. We look forward to working with him as we continue to advance the priorities of physicians and our patients.

Mr. Thompson succeeds Mr. Robert Ritter, who will officially retire as NLMA Executive Director on September 1. To assist with the transition, Mr. Ritter will serve in the position of Special Advisor to the Executive Director until December 31, 2013.

I would like to offer thanks and express my gratitude to Mr. Ritter for his 12 years of dedication and service to the Association. Rob has been a tremendous asset to the NLMA, leading the Association through some very difficult times. We will certainly miss his leadership, enthusiasm and unwavering commitment to the physicians of the province. I wish him the best of health and happiness in the future.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yordan Karaivanov". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Yordan Karaivanov, MD
President

The logo for the Newfoundland & Labrador Medical Association, consisting of the letters "NLMA" in a stylized, bold, italicized font.

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Biographical Information: Robert Thompson

Mr. Robert Thompson is a graduate of Memorial University (political science), with graduate studies in public administration at York University, and in business administration at Memorial. In 2010, he was appointed Clerk of the Executive Council and Secretary to Cabinet, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. From 2008-2010, he was Deputy Minister, Department of Natural Resources and from 2007-2008 he served as Secretary to Cabinet (Health Issues). In that position, he managed government's participation in the Commission of Inquiry on Hormone Receptor Testing, and chaired a Task Force on the management of adverse health events. Between 2003 and 2007, Mr. Thompsons was Clerk of the Executive Council and Secretary to Cabinet.

His previous positions include Deputy Minister, Department of Health and Community Services (2001 to 2003), and as Deputy Minister of Tourism, Culture and Recreation (1996 to 2001). He has also served as Assistant Secretary to Cabinet for Economic Policy and has held management positions with the Intergovernmental Affairs Secretariat; the Department of Education; the Department of Career Development and Advanced Studies; and, the Department of Rural, Agricultural and Northern Development.

Mr. Thompson has also served on the boards of the Canadian Policy Research Networks; Canada Health Infoway Inc.; the Canadian Tourism Commission; the Atlantic Canada Tourism Partnership; the Special Celebrations Corporation; and, in a volunteer capacity, on the boards of the St. John's Downtown Development Corporation and Shallaway: Newfoundland and Labrador Youth in Chorus. Mr. Thompson resides in St. John's with his wife Wanda and their daughter Emily.