

Speaking Notes – Dr. Christopher Cox

Thank you Pat.

I would like to conclude today's event by telling you about our next steps and to invite all of us to remain connected in the coming months and years. I think we have started a valuable discussion today, and one which remain very important as we move forward.

The ideas and input provided around 21 tables, and during the question and answer sessions, have been recorded. We have excellent notes from our note takers, and to whom we owe much gratitude for volunteering their time and expertise.

Our next step is to compile a forum report. We will provide the report to everyone who joined us today as a summary of our discussions. As noted by Robert's opening remarks, specific comments will not be attributed to individuals. Rather we will be identifying the diversity of opinion surrounding key issues. We will not be calling a consensus on the discussion and will note where strong opinion or vigorous debate took place.

We hope this report will be of value to everyone here and in particular to the government if there is a decision to launch a review of health facilities and services. This report will inform the government of the ideas and opinion of stakeholders which merit consideration to inform their way forward.

The intent of this forum was to share current knowledge and infuse new ideas about the pros and cons, and the reefs and shoals, of health care reform. From this, I hope we would also, as stakeholders will continue to provide leadership to such reviews as the government moves forward with its fiscal reality and mandate to provide high quality health care to the citizens of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Staying connected will be important to ensure that health reform is not a zero-sum game among competitors, but an outcome that is greater than the sum of its parts. In this way, it will be with the primary stakeholder - the patient- who will benefit the most.

Allow me to thank, on your behalf, some of the people who helped make today possible...first, our keynote speaker Dr. David Naylor, the moderator and panelists from this morning (Dr. Margaret Steele, Dr. Tom Noseworthy, Dr. Keith Storey, Mr. Terry Paddon, and Dr. Wendy Graham), the two guests who provided this afternoon' presentations (Dr Kelly Shaw and Dr David Peachey), the moderators of our table discussions, the notetakers, our conference moderator Dr. Pat O'Shea, our co-sponsors the Harris Centre and The Centre for Applied Health Research, the conference steering committee, the hard-working and excellent staff of the NLMA who produced this event, and to all of you for being so generous of your time to contribute to this important matter.