
President's Letter

April 18, 2013

Expressions of Interest invited for NLMA workshop on delivering primary care to physicians



**Tony Gabriel,
MD, CCFP, FCFP
President**

The physician who doctors himself has a fool for a patient. — Sir William Osler

Dear Colleagues:

Family physicians in the province are invited to submit expressions of interest to participate in a half-day workshop on May 25 at the NLMA office in St. John's. The workshop, *Enhancing Competency in Delivering Primary Care to Physicians*, is sponsored by the NLMA's Physician Wellness Advisory Committee and is intended to support a program to match physician-patients with physician-providers.

The new program, which will be launched in the fall, is in response to a needs assessment recently conducted with members that revealed about 30% of physicians in the province do not have a family doctor.

At the end of the workshop participants will be able to:

- Discuss the health issues of particular relevance to physicians.
- Integrate strategies that will enhance collaboration in care (e.g. role clarity, confidentiality).
- Demonstrate a deeper level of appreciation and comfort with the boundary issues in a physician-provider/physician-patient relationship.
- Describe the core duty to report on/warn of issues associated with the care of physicians.
- Express how a primary care program for physicians will enhance the quality of care delivered to the people of the province.

Workshop participants will be asked to act as champions for the program and, with support and resources from the NLMA, promote and deliver training to other family physicians in their area.

Workshop presenters include Dr. Derek Puddester, a national leader on physician health issues and a consultant on physician health for the NLMA, and Dr. Gina Higgins, a family physician in Grand Falls-Windsor and a member of the Physician Wellness Advisory Committee. Representatives of the CMPA and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Newfoundland and Labrador have also been invited to present.

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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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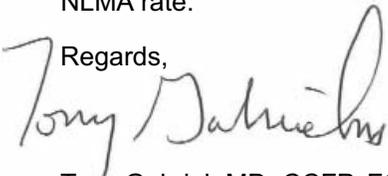
Page 2 of 2

For more information and to submit your Expression of Interest, family physicians are asked to contact Lynn Barter, Associate Executive Director, by e-mail at lbarter@nlma.nl.ca or telephone (709) 726-7424, ext. 306. Your email should include your practice location, whether or not you currently have physicians as patients, and your interest in becoming a "champion" for the program in your area. Deadline for Expressions of Interest is close of business May 17.

The NLMA is working with the Office of Professional Development and Conferencing Solutions, Faculty of Medicine, Memorial University to have the workshop designated as a continuing medical education activity. Mainpro-M-1 credits of the College of Family Physicians of Canada are pending approval.

The NLMA will cover travel and accommodation costs, and will pay participants honoraria at the established NLMA rate.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tony Gabriel". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name.

Tony Gabriel, MD, CCFP, FCFP
President