



NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

July 28, 2020

President's Letter: NLMA News Conference on key issues facing health care and physicians on the eve of the selection of a new Premier

Dear Colleagues,

Earlier today, NLMA President-Elect Dr. Lynnette Powell and I held a news conference to inform the public about the NLMA's concerns about our broken relationship with the provincial government.

We outlined issues of key concern for physicians such as recruitment and retention challenges, the need for health system restructuring, primary care reform, true integration of virtual care and the seriously delayed contract talks between government and doctors. We also spoke about the failure of this government and the Minister of Health to listen to the advice of physicians to address issues facing our patients and the health care system.

Next month, the people of Newfoundland and Labrador will have a new Premier. With this leadership change comes an opportunity for positive new directions. Today, we called on the new Premier to have a health agenda that addresses these issues. We also called on the new premier to make an improved relationship with the NLMA a priority.

Remarks from our news conference are available for download below. Tomorrow, we will post the video of the news conference to our YouTube and social media channels and will share it with members. You may also wish to tune in to coverage on CBC Here and Now, NTV Evening News, or VOCM News this evening. Coverage will also be in tomorrow's edition of the *The Telegram*.

Regards,

Charlene Fitzgerald, MD, CCFP, FCFP, FRRMS

News Conference Remarks:

[Speaking Notes – Dr. Charlene Fitzgerald & Dr. Lynnette Powell](#)

***Representing and supporting a united medical profession and providing leadership
in the provision of excellent health care in Newfoundland and Labrador***

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