



Kris Luscombe
MD, FRCPC

NLMA and Provincial Government launching consultations to address administrative burden in family medicine

Dear Colleagues:

The signed [Shared Agenda for Family Medicine](#) between the NLMA and provincial government included a commitment to “inventory and take action on administrative burdens that can be removed from family physicians to improve workplace satisfaction, reduce stress and potentially help improve capacity.”

The first step in delivering on this commitment will be to conduct member consultations to measure physician administrative burden and its impact.

A similar initiative was carried out in 2019 by Doctors Nova Scotia with support from the Government of Nova Scotia. The parties launched online and in-person consultations with physicians, which resulted in recommended actions and benchmarks for reducing administrative burden. The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has recommended that all provinces adopt a similar approach.

The NLMA and the Department of Health and Community Services will meet with our counterparts in Nova Scotia to learn more about their activities and lessons learned. We will adapt their data collection methods to quantify the impact of administrative burden on physicians in this province and identify initiatives for reducing this burden.

The NLMA and the Department have commissioned Narrative Research to design and administer an online survey for all practicing physicians, as well as online facilitated discussion groups.

We will also regularly consult with the Family Practice Networks' (FPNs') Less Paperwork Committee, which has already started the process of identifying forms and administrative processes that are consuming family physician time.

The findings from these consultations will be detailed in a final report with recommended projects and actions for reducing administrative burden.

Please look for emails from Narrative Research in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "K. Luscombe".

Kris Luscombe
President

The logo for the Newfoundland & Labrador Medical Association, featuring a stylized, cursive "NLMA" in black.

**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
www.nlma.nl.ca
president@nlma.nl.ca