



**NL Health
Services**



Memorandum

To: Community-based Family Practice Physicians

From: Darla King, VP Transformation-Well-being, NL Health Services (NLHS)
Gertie Mai Muise, Executive Director, Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Association (NLMA)

Cc: Gillian Sweeney, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health and Community Services (DHCS)

Date: September 16, 2024

Re: Affiliation of Community-based Physicians Offices with Family Care Teams

Family Care Teams are a new model of Primary Health Care Service delivery that aims to provide every person in the province with timely access to health and social services as part of a well-connected community network. Given the vital role that community-based physician practices play in the delivery of Primary Health Care services in NL, it is important to build connections between Family Care Teams and community-based physician practices. Affiliation is one strategy to build these connections. Since the introduction of the Family Care Team Framework, the NLMA, NLHS, and DHCS have worked together to develop an affiliation agreement template as well as policy guidelines to support this process.

Over the past several months NLHS has been working closely with physician leaders of Family Practice Networks to prepare for affiliation. We are pleased today to officially share the following documents as a first step to launching this process:

- Affiliation Agreement Letter of Offer Template (a sample affiliation agreement)
- Affiliating with FCTs NL: Governance and Policies Guide for Affiliating Community Practices
- Affiliation: Frequently Asked Questions

In the coming week, you will receive communication from your local Collaborative Services Committee, which will identify opportunities for you to discuss affiliation with the Family Care Team in your local area, readiness, and next steps. The potential partnership between a physician practice and the local Family Care Team is a discussion that everyone is encouraged to consider as we work together to transform primary health care delivery in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Darla King
VP Transformation Well-Being, NLHS

Gertie Mai Muise
Executive Director, NLMA