

Board of directors announces Dr. Brendan Carr as NSHA's new president and chief executive officer



NSHA's board of directors is pleased to announce that Dr. Brendan Carr will start his work as our new president and chief executive officer effective Dec. 16, 2019.

"After an extensive national search process, we are pleased to welcome Dr. Carr back to Nova Scotia," board chair Frank van Schaayk said. "Dr. Carr has earned a reputation as an innovative leader who delivers exceptional operational performance. He has the right balance of experience, knowledge and expertise both in health care, as well as in running a large organization. We are confident we have identified the right leader to take NSHA into the future."

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Bloom Program Coordinator helps create connections between patients and pharmacists



For Bloom Program coordinator Dr. Laura Miller, the most important medication many patients take away from their local pharmacies is often positive "connection with other human beings."

Miller started in June as Nova Scotia Health Authority's provincial lead for the Bloom Program, which aims to improve the health and well-being of people living with mental illness and addictions by connecting them directly with pharmacists who can offer patient-centered medication therapy management, help patients

more easily navigate the health care system including community supports, offer educational resources with in-house pharmacy libraries, and provide friendly faces and helpful advice as soon as you walk through the door – both free of charge and without any sort of wait list.

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Physician assistant role pilot program aims to help improve access to hip and knee surgeries



Three physician assistants are joining the division of orthopedics at the QEII Health Sciences Centre, through a three-year pilot program to evaluate the role and increase access to hip and knee joint replacement surgeries.

Physician assistants (PAs) are health care providers who practise medicine in collaboration with, or under the supervision of a physician. They are trained to perform many clinical procedures traditionally performed by a physician.

NSHA received support from the Department of Health and Wellness and the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia to launch the pilot. The Department of Health and Wellness is providing funding for the roles under NSHA's multi-year hip and knee action plan, announced in the fall of 2017. Presently, physician assistants are not licensed or regulated in Nova Scotia. The college is offering support for the project, allowing physicians to delegate some clinical activities to physician assistants over the course of the pilot.

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Finding a primary care provider - October snapshot

Finding a Primary Care Provider in Nova Scotia - October 2019 Snapshot

115,436

Nova Scotians

have found a family practice since
November 2016

Approximately

6,300 people

found a family doctor or nurse practitioner
each month in the past 12 months

51,014

Nova Scotians

are on the Need a Family Practice Registry,
as of October 1, 2019

This represents

5.5% of the population



Monthly activity

As reported in September 2019

5,057 people

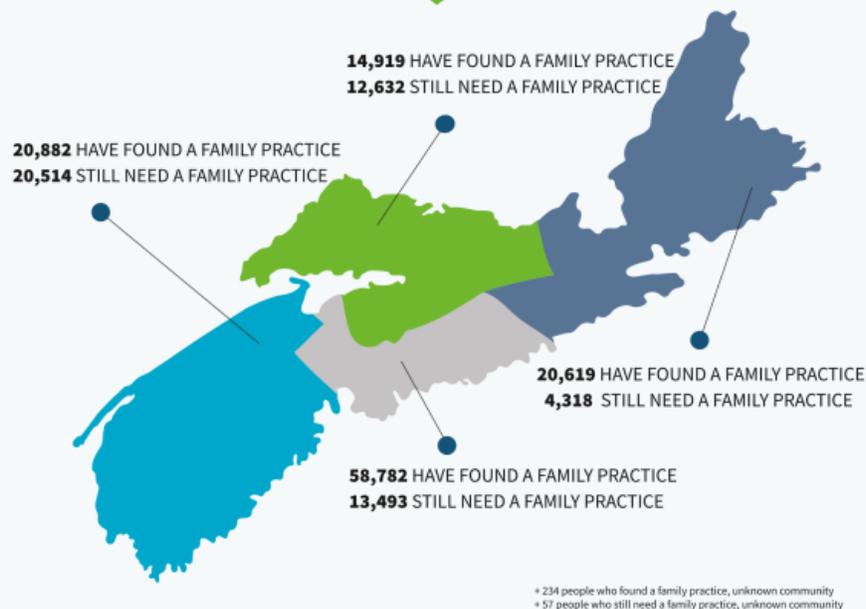
found a family practice

In September 2019

2,987 people

added their names to the registry

Total number of Nova Scotians by area



nova scotia
health authority

NSHA is committed to improving access to primary health care by building and strengthening family practice teams and recruiting family doctors. We report on our efforts monthly. As of this month, more than 115,000 people have found a family doctor or nurse practitioner since NSHA began tracking this information.

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Medical clerkship program launches in Cape Breton

Medical students are getting hands-on training in Cape Breton through a new program designed to introduce future doctors to practising in rural communities.

For the first time, four Dalhousie University Medical School students are spending their entire third-year in North Sydney and New Waterford as part of their training. Normally third-year students complete short placements in various communities.

“This is a great way to offer on-the-job training in family medicine and other areas,” said Health and Wellness Minister Randy Delorey. “The program provides students the chance to experience Cape Breton – and rural family medicine – early in their studies and interest them in eventually building a career there.”

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Expansion of sexual assault nurse examiner program

More services are being provided across Nova Scotia for people who have experienced sexual assault.

The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program is now available through two more regional hospitals in the province. The Tri County Women’s Centre is offering the program at the Valley Regional Hospital in Kentville and South Shore Regional Hospital in Bridgewater.

A contract has also been awarded to VON Nova Scotia to expand the program to Colchester and Cumberland counties, East Hants and the Eastern Shore. The VON will work with Nova Scotia Health Authority to train nurses. Once in place, the program will be available through all regional hospitals, providing in-person coverage across the province.

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Crossroads Clubhouse in Cape Breton help members living with mental illness see themselves in new light

The Crossroads Clubhouse in Sydney, a mental health and addictions program since May 1994, is part of an international community that redefines what it means to live with mental illness and promotes unique recovery through genuine relationships and a deep commitment to working together.



The Cape Breton location is one of more than 300 such clubhouses around the world. "Crossroads makes you see yourself as an individual not as a patient," a member named Margaret said. "The clubhouse makes you see yourself in a new light."

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NSHA's patient and family advisors provide valuable input to help improve continuing care

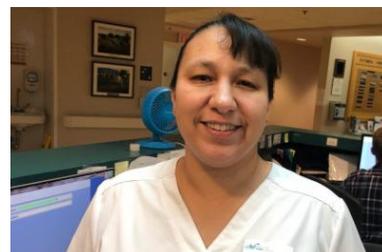


Larry Baxter looked after his father for four years. He's also been a part-time home care worker for 12 years. That experience, as well as his background working in the non-profit sector, made him an ideal candidate to be a volunteer patient family advisor (PFA) with Nova Scotia Health Authority's continuing care team. Baxter sits on the provincial Continuing Care Quality Council. There are a total of 13 continuing care PFAs; two sit on the provincial quality team, while the remaining 11 sit on the quality councils for the geographical zone that they live in. Their roles are to bring the client and family perspectives to the table, helping NSHA's continuing care team make decisions and improvements that best meet client and family needs.

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Our People in Profile

All across NSHA, employees, physicians, learners and volunteers perform many different roles and work in many different departments but share a common focus: supporting and delivering high - quality care and service to Nova Scotians. We're shining a light on that work through the Our People in Profile Series. We encourage you meet some of the people who work, learn



and volunteer at NSHA by visiting our website regularly or following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



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