

If elected to form the next Government of Nova Scotia, what is the commitment of the Liberal Party of Nova Scotia to the following four recommendations and associated timelines?

- 1. In 2017-18, establish a one-time stabilization fund of \$4 million to be distributed equitably among Nova Scotia's existing CHC's. These funds will enable CHC's to address high-priority operational gaps during this transition year and enable them to actively contribute to the province's strategic discussions and planning for expansion of Health Homes.**

**RESPONSE:** Much work has been done to determine communities where there are current significant gaps in the provision of primary health care; the best location for these community collaborative practices and the full support team needed to address the primary health care needs of Nova Scotians in these communities.

The Liberal Government invested \$3.6 million through an **open** Expression of Interest process to support the hiring of nurse practitioners and family practice nurses to support collaborative care teams in Digby, Shelburne, Windsor, Spryfield, Dartmouth, Musquodoboit Harbour, Truro, Westville, Port Hawkesbury, Cheticamp, Eskasoni and Sydney.

If re-elected, a Liberal Government will invest an additional \$78 million over the next four years to expand and create more than 70 collaborative care teams across Nova Scotia. All interested teams, including those practicing in community health centres will have the opportunity to access funds through an open RFP/EOI process.

- 2. In 2017-18, establish a primary health care partnership table, with representation from NSAHC, and other relevant associations/groups, to advance the province's planning of primary health care, including necessary steps to ensure that all Nova Scotians have access to the most appropriate type of health Home.**

**RESPONSE:** As primary health care development continues; a re-elected Liberal Government will commit to include community governed Community Health Centres and other relevant stakeholders in the continued advancement of primary health care planning.

- 3. By 2018-19, establish a provincial policy framework and implement core, annualized provincial funding for CHC's. Annualized global funding budgets should be provided to each existing CHC in Nova Scotia to support the package of team-based primary care, health promotion and community/social services that they deliver as health Homes (see Appendix 1 of NSAHC's April 2017 position paper for examples.). This funding should be accompanied by mutual accountability agreements between CHC's and the Nova Scotia Health Authority.**

**RESPONSE:** If re-elected, a Liberal Government will invest an additional \$78 million over the next four years to expand and create more than 70 collaborative care teams across Nova Scotia. All interested teams, including those practicing in community health centres will have the opportunity to access funds through an open RFP/EOI process. Currently, funding is made available to some Community Health Centres for which there is a relationship with the Nova Scotia Health Authority. The Liberal Party believes it is important for organizations receiving funding from Nova Scotia taxpayers to have service/accountability agreements and will continue to pursue agreements for those currently receiving funding as well as those receiving funding in the future.

- 4. By 2020, invest in 10 new community-governed Community Health Centres throughout Nova Scotia to provide more Nova Scotians access to Health Homes through the integrated CHC model.**

**RESPONSE:** Since 2013, Liberals has provided/ committed funding for the capital construction of the following Centres:

Our Health Centre, Chester, NS - \$500,000 to support capital construction

Shelburne Health Care Centre – tender for construction issued with construction to commence in June 2017.

Community Health Centre in New Waterford – site selection and conceptual design work announced with construction to begin in June 2017.

If re-elected, a Liberal government will establish a \$5 million annual fund for the construction and renovation of collaborative care centres that best meets the needs of the communities they will serve. This is in addition to the funding committed for the Shelburne Health Care Centre and planning for the New Waterford Community Health Centre.