



NURSE PRACTITIONERS ASSOCIATION OF NOVA SCOTIA

Nurse Practitioners' Association of Nova Scotia (NPANS)

August 14, 2025

To Our Valued Members,

We are writing to inform you of a significant and concerning development regarding the future of primary health care delivery in Nova Scotia.

On **August 13, 2025**, a **legislative meeting** was held to discuss the proposed **Medical Health Home model of care**. This meeting included representation from **Doctors Nova Scotia** and the **College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia**. **The Nurse Practitioners' Association of Nova Scotia (NPANS) was not invited to participate;** despite the major implications this model has for nurse practitioners and the patients we serve.

The discussion at the meeting reportedly focused on implementing **physician-led health homes**, a structure that designates physicians as the most responsible providers (MRPs) and excludes nurse practitioners from leadership roles in care delivery. Of additional concern are proposals allowing physicians to **bill for services provided by other health care professionals**, including nurse practitioners — a change that may result in **double billing** and increase costs to Nova Scotians, while diminishing the autonomy and contributions of non-physician providers.

We deeply appreciate and acknowledge Karen Oldfield, CEO of Nova Scotia Health, for recognizing the importance of nurse practitioners in these conversations and for **advocating that NPANS be included at the table**. Her leadership in calling for a more inclusive and collaborative approach is encouraging and reflects an understanding of the value that nurse practitioners bring to health care delivery in this province.

In response to these developments, **NPANS is actively seeking clarification and engagement with the Department of Health and Wellness, the Premier of Nova Scotia, and the Minister of Health**. We are requesting a formal seat at all future legislative or policy discussions regarding health care reform and delivery models in Nova Scotia.

We are also calling on you — our members — to take immediate action.

We urge every nurse practitioner in Nova Scotia to **write to the Premier and the Minister of Health** to express your concerns about:

- The lack of NP representation in the August 13 legislative meeting
- The exclusionary nature of the physician-led health home model
- The need for nurse practitioners to be recognized as autonomous, responsible providers in any collaborative care model

Please do **not assume your colleague will write a letter and that you do not need to**. This is a **pivotal moment for our profession. We must bind together as NPs in Nova Scotia, and each raise our voices** to bring about the substantial change and action required.

Contact emails for your letters:

- **Premier Tim Houston** – premier@novascotia.ca
- **Hon. Michelle Thompson, Minister of Health and Wellness** – health.minister@novascotia.ca

NPANS will continue advocating for your role and for a truly collaborative, inclusive, and fiscally responsible health care system in Nova Scotia. We are stronger together, and your voice is needed now more than ever.

If you would like support writing your letter or would like to use a template, please reach out — we're here to help.

In solidarity and action,

Aprill Susin, President
Nurse Practitioners' Association of Nova Scotia (NPANS)
president@npans.ca