



The New Brunswick Health Council

An Evolving Success Story

THE NEW BRUNSWICK HEALTH COUNCIL (NBHC) was established with the most recent reorganization of health services in our province as an independent body, accountable to the people of our province with predominant values of transparency, public engagement and accountability.

Under the leadership of the Council's Directors, which include a number of registered nurses and a team of capable, vibrant staff, all indications are that the Council is delivering on its mandate and will continue to develop in its capacity and effectiveness.

Today we recognize, in fact, demand that decisions are based on sound evidence. In the Council's reality, evidence that will inform current and future investment, utilization and development of health services in New Brunswick.

The NBHC's mandate focuses on four areas:

- engaging citizens;
- measuring, monitoring and evaluation of population health and health service quality;
- informing citizens on health system performance; and
- recommending improvements to health system partners.

During the initial months of operation, the following highlight major initiatives:

Over the past spring, the Council completed its first extensive citizen engagement. I was fortunate to participate as a stakeholder and to have the opportunity to hear first-hand the concerns and priorities of citizens. It was clear that many citizens are ready for change in how and with what provider they access health services, while assurance that they will have

access to the provider with the expertise their particular health needs require. The report from this engagement; *"Our Health, Our Perspectives, Our Solutions"* is available on the Council website.

The Council has also published its first *'Population Health Snapshot'*. It identifies many of the population health challenges we are facing and can inform priorities for action and investment.

Most recently the Council released findings from its first *'Care Experience Survey'*, as well as findings related to health system performance. The Council website also includes an announcement of the current development of a *'Sustainability Analysis Model'* to assist and inform future policy decisions.

These reports contain information of significant interest to registered nurses across the province; especially the most recent *'Health System Report Card'*. Whether a direct care provider, administrator, educator, researcher or nurse working in the policy arena, this data and analysis are an important resource. As the provincial regulatory body for registered nurses responsible for the standards of nursing practice and education and to inform our role in advancing healthy public policy the work of the New Brunswick Health Council and our relationship with the Council as a health stakeholder and partner are essential and is one we value greatly.

I encourage you to access the Council website ([» www.nbhc.ca](http://www.nbhc.ca)) and to review the various reports, their findings and recommendations. I am certain you will find them informative and stimulating as we all work toward advancing the quality, accessibility and effectiveness of our New Brunswick health services.

Congratulations to the Council!

—ROXANNE TARJAN, *Executive Director*