

The Major Directions Arising from Health Accord NL

Objective

In the initial phase of Health Accord NL, each of the six strategy committees was asked to state their major directions for improvement of health in NL by focusing more on vision than implementation.

Vision for Health Accord NL

Our Vision is improved health and health outcomes for Newfoundlanders and Labradorians through acceptance of and interventions in social determinants of health, and a higher quality health system that balances community, hospital, and long-term care services.

Direction Statements

1. Social Determinants of Health

- ◇ We will continue to seek a clearer understanding of the social, economic, and environmental factors that have led to continuing health inequity in NL. We will engage communities in identifying and addressing specific areas of concern.
- ◇ We will challenge the health care system to strengthen its role in promoting health equity.
- ◇ We will champion the **Health in All Policies**© approach by provincial and municipal governments and encourage its expansion to include public, community and private organizations.
- ◇ We will build on our strengths and existing initiatives to bring about a cross-sectoral approach, essential to improving the health of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians.

2. Community Care

- ◇ Every person in Newfoundland and Labrador will have timely access to social and health services and to continuous care centered in the community as part of a well-connected network.
- ◇ This structure will be enabled and strengthened by interdisciplinary teams working collaboratively with individuals and their families and focusing on all aspects of health and wellness.

3. Hospital Services

- ◇ Quality hospital services will be delivered through a better-integrated hub-and-spoke team-based care where all practitioners will be able to fully utilize their skills.
- ◇ The care model will be delivered in collaboration with community services to provide sustainable, appropriate, equitable and person-focused care that supports the needs of the patients in their communities.
- ◇ Patient travel will be minimized by the utilization of virtual technology.
- ◇ When travel is necessary, patients will access a better transportation system.

4. Aging Population

- ◇ The people of Newfoundland and Labrador will be enabled and empowered to transition seamlessly through age and health-related changes with dignity and autonomy.
- ◇ This will be rooted in family and community supports and strengthened by a commitment to aging-in-place in age friendly communities.

5. Quality Health Care

- ◇ We will improve individual and population health, as well as the performance of our social and health systems.
- ◇ All people of the province will receive high value, timely services in a way which matches actual practice with best practice.
- ◇ Accountability, oversight, research and beneficial innovation will ensure optimal quality of care.

6. Digital Technology

- ◇ Digital technology will improve health and health outcomes in the province by empowering people with information, access, and choice.
- ◇ By connecting people and systems, we will integrate systems, and we will link health and social factors.
- ◇ Using an agile, iterative, and evidence-based approach, we will spur leading innovation and a culture of exploration, which will become a driving force for inclusion.

Integration of the six directions will be important in creating a structure that is stable and coordinated.

We will improve the health of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians

Address specific areas of concern relating to social, economic and environmental factors

Creatively use digital technology to connect systems and people and to link health and social factors

Empower people to transition seamlessly through age-related health changes

Ensure high quality health care in social and health systems

Balance the health system with an accessible team-based network of community, hospital, and long-term care services

Learn more about Health Accord NL directions and how they integrate at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sctX9wLBCq4>.