

For Immediate Release
September 25, 2019

NL Centre for Health Information Holds 2018/2019 Annual General Meeting

St. John's, NL - The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (NLCHI) held its annual general meeting at the Ramada Inn in St. John's today. Dr. Kris Aubrey-Bassler, Board Chair, and Steve Clark, CEO, highlighted NLCHI's accomplishments from the past year.

"In 2018/2019, the Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information continued to support the provincial health care system. Utilizing eHealth programs, tools, data analytics and evaluation support, NLCHI provided health care professionals and decision makers with quality sources of information to enhance patient care and support better patient outcomes. I want to thank NLCHI's leadership, staff, board members and health system partners whose dedication and commitment continues to drive the organization's efforts forward."

— *Dr. Kris Aubrey-Bassler, Board Chair, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information*

NLCHI's 2017-2020 business plan outlines priorities across three strategic areas: be a trusted source of health information; be responsive and proactive to stakeholders' needs through system and process improvements; and deliver dynamic and innovative solutions. Some of NLCHI's successes in 2018/2019 that supported these strategic areas included:

Be a trusted source of health information

- Delivering quality health information is at the core of NLCHI's mandate. In 2018/19, NLCHI implemented key components of its Data Warehouse Enhancement Project.
- In 2018/19, NLCHI completed a Health Data Lab solution design. Three data environments were designed: decision support/business intelligence, research and evaluation and application development. The technology and infrastructure for the three environments of the Health Data Lab were implemented and functionality testing was performed.

Be responsive and proactive to stakeholders' needs through system and process improvements

- In 2018/19 active use of HEALTHe NL, the provincial electronic health record, increased to 4,337, up from 2,537 in 2017/18. There was also increased adoption of HEALTHe NL by other health care providers including dentists, oral surgeons, midwives, hospital pharmacy technicians and others.
- In 2018/19, NLCHI increased adoption of HEALTHe NL by 2,768 new users. As of March 31, 2019, 8,358 health care providers had been given access to a HEALTHe NL account to support clinical decision making.
- In 2018/19, NLCHI implemented a plan to sign on prescribers of monitored drugs to HEALTHe NL in accordance with the Prescription Monitoring Act. By July 1, 2018, 95 per cent of active prescribers had access to HEALTHe NL to meet their legislative requirements.
- NLCHI enhanced the functionality of HEALTHe NL by adding several new features including: the ability to view organ donor status; access to myCCath from HEALTHe NL which enables electronic referrals to the cardiac catheterization lab at Eastern Health; access to iScheduler, a provincial Telehealth scheduling application; and solution design of the eOrdering referral process for Eastern Health's vascular lab expected to be launched fall 2019.

Deliver dynamic and innovative solutions

- In 2018/19, NLCHI implemented technology to provide external stakeholders with appropriate access to data in a secure environment that minimizes the time to access data for secondary use.
- In 2018/19, eDOCSNL completed the adoption process for 220 fee-for-service (FFS) physicians to the eDOCSNL EMR program. Over 300 clinicians were using the eDOCSNL EMR by March 31, 2019, accounting for approximately 50 per cent of the provincial population having an electronic patient record in an eDOCSNL EMR system.
- In 2018/19, NLCHI completed the HEALTHe NL foundational build with the addition of the remaining data sources from Central Health in September 2018.

In 2018/2019, NLCHI continued to implement the Provincial eHealth Model which will combine the eHealth functions of the four Regional Health Authorities and NLCHI into a provincially focused organization. The eHealth model will help drive efficiencies, advance technology, address access to services, increase privacy and security and enhance decision support. In 2018/2019, NLCHI determined the eHealth functions that would move from the Regional Health Authorities to NLCHI, designed a new organizational structure and began implementing a plan centred on the people, finances, governance and services required to realize this initiative.

“NLCHI reached a number of significant milestones in 2018/2019 including the completion of the provincial electronic health record, impressive growth in the provincial electronic medical record program, further implementation of the Provincial eHealth Model and development of key components for a Health Data Lab. During this past fiscal year, NLCHI continued to establish itself as a provincial and national leader in the delivery of eHealth and digital health solutions.”

– *Steve Clark, CEO, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information.*

-30-

About the Centre for Health Information

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (NLCHI) is a crown agency of the Provincial Government. NLCHI is responsible for:

- Providing quality information to health professionals, the public, researchers and health system decision-makers.
- Supporting the development of data and technical standards; maintaining key health databases; carrying out analytics and evaluation; and, supporting health research.
- Delivering provincial eHealth solutions such as the electronic health record and electronic medical record.
- Leading a shared services approach to manage eHealth services across the entire provincial health care system.

For more information contact:

Blair Medd, Director of Communications

blair.medd@nlchi.nl.ca