

For Immediate Release
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NLCHI CEO appointed President and Board Chair of COACH

St. John's, NL - The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information (the Centre) is pleased to announce that its President and CEO Mike Barron, has been appointed as President and Board Chair of COACH, Canada's health informatics association, for the 2014-2016 term. Mr. Barron will assume this volunteer position while continuing in his current leadership of the Centre.

COACH is Canada's foremost health informatics association with a membership of 1,800 individuals ranging from health care executives, physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, researchers and educators to CIOs, information managers, technical experts, consultants, and information technology vendors. Organizations represented include health care service delivery, government and non-government agencies, consulting firms, educational institutions, and information technology service providers. The field of health informatics is a substantial component of modernizing health care and is the intersection of clinical and management practices with information management and technology.

"The Board is delighted that Mr. Barron has been chosen to serve in this volunteer leadership position. This appointment speaks to the caliber of people we have here at the Centre and we are confident that his experience and expertise in the area of health informatics will be a great asset to COACH."

– *Ray Dillon, Board Chair, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information*

"It's an honour to be selected to serve in this role. This position provides an opportunity to promote and share the work being done in the province, to work with and learn from others in the health informatics field to collectively achieve new milestones, and to have an impact on improving the health system for all Canadians."

– *Mike Barron, President and CEO, Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information.*

The Centre is a national leader in health information management and technology and is on the forefront of electronic health record (EHR) development in Canada. The province is positioned to be among the first three provinces in Canada to establish an interoperable EHR in accordance with the national blueprint. Once implemented, the EHR will provide more accurate, reliable and comparable data to support health care policy and decision-making, and most importantly, improved quality and safety of patient care.

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About the Centre for Health Information

The Newfoundland and Labrador Centre for Health Information provides quality information to health professionals, the public, researchers and health system decision-makers. Through collaboration with the health system, the Centre supports the development of data and technical standards, maintains key health databases, prepares and distributes health reports, and supports and carries out applied health research, evaluations, and analytics. The Centre's work also includes the development and implementation of a confidential and secure provincial electronic health record and other provincial health information systems.

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