

Re: Legislative Changes for Albertans access to healthcare services

Albertans are facing barriers to primary care services as provided by Nurse Practitioners (NPs) due to current legislation.

Multiple pieces of legislation require modernization to keep pace with the advancement of NP scope of practice and service delivery models to ensure comprehensive patient access to primary care. Patients are currently unable to have their NP complete necessary forms such as AISH, disability, insurance and others due to current legislative language. This results in patients accessing medi-centers and emergency departments for the purpose of form completion by physicians (providers who do not have a relationship with the patient). This negatively impacts patient access to essential services, increases the burden of care faced by other providers, increases unnecessary utilization of emergency departments and increases costs to the overall system.

I am aware that both the CRNA and the NPAA have circulated the necessary briefing information to the Ministries of Health, Red Tape, and Seniors, Community and Social Services.

At spring session 2025, it is imperative that the following pieces of legislation be amended;

- Health Professions Act
- Insurance Act
- Alberta Health Care Insurance Act
- Automobile Accident Insurance Benefit Regulation
- Business Corporations Act
- Adult Guardian and Trusteeship Act
- Personal Directives Act

In addition, the following provincial forms require amending (add “nurse practitioner” next to “physician”);

- Short-term disability
- Long-term disability
- Auto insurance claims
- Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped
- Workers Compensation Board
- Organ and tissue donation
- Capacity assessments
- Vital statistics
- Death certificates

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to improving healthcare in Alberta. I look forward to your response. Please contact the NPAA to work towards this essential step in

improving primary care services for albertans. It is imperative that these changes are addressed in the upcoming spring sitting of the legislature.

Sincerely,