

March 8, 2019

Ms. Shauna Feth
Chair
Alberta Chambers of Commerce
1808, 10025 - 102A Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5J 2Z2

Dear Ms. Feth:

Honourable Sarah Hoffman, Minister of Health and Deputy Premier, confirmed changes to the Primary Care Network (PCN) funding model to support Nurse Practitioners (NPs). I wanted to ensure you are aware of the following development.

We have launched a PCN NP Support Program that will give Albertans more access to timely care by using the expertise of NPs. Through a \$38.5 million investment over three years, funding will be provided to PCNs to support NPs currently working in the networks, as well as to hire 50 more NPs over two years across the province. The PCN funding formula will be revised to increase NP services and presence in primary health care and to allow them to create their own patient panels.

The PCN NP Support Program builds on the positive results coming from the NP demonstration project. We launched the \$10 million demonstration project in 2016 to explore the increased use of NPs in primary health care, particularly in areas that serve vulnerable populations. Early indications from the four demonstration project sites are showing great success. Results so far include satisfied patients, increased access to primary health care services, and NPs working to their full scope of practice.

If you have questions or would like to know more, please connect with your local PCN or Candy Gregory, Director of Operations, at candy.gregory@gov.ab.ca.

Thank you,



Leann Wagner
Assistant Deputy Minister
Health Workforce Planning and Accountability Division
Alberta Health