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## **Review of 2019 Priorities**

### **Strategic Priority: ACCESS**

#### **GOAL: PROMOTE AND FACILITATE ACCESS TO PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICES**

- Objective 2: Lobby plan administrators/employers to consider removing requirement of physician referrals for PT services
  - Activities
    - Collaborate with national on direct access strategies
    - Contact plan administrators/employers
    - Collaborate with PR Committee to promote role of PT and highlight strain on the system due to requirement of physician referrals
  - Actions
    - Jessica, Steve, and Patricia met with Doctors NS to propose the elimination of the requirement for a physician referral to physiotherapy – this meeting had a successful outcome
    - This task has evolved to require board involvement for further execution. It has been recommended that the board/NSPA executive be responsible for arranging the next steps/meetings
    - The direct access working group has drafted and mailed letters to the President of the treasury board and President of the PSAC encouraging their review of their health plans that can discourage the usage of physiotherapy due to bureaucratic barriers such as physician referrals. A follow-up letter to the Public Service Alliance in progress.

### **Strategic Priority: VALUE**

#### **GOAL: PROMOTE THE VALUE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY TO THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS TO INFLUENCE THE HEALTH SYSTEM**

- Objective 2: Increase the number of PTs in collaborative health clinics in NS
  - Activities
    - Position paper on collaborative care (benefits of the collaborative care team) on website – in progress
    - Produce and distribute resource documents and advocacy tool kit for members
      - The advocacy committee initiated an advocacy toolkit in 2019 with the goal of utilization by physiotherapists and the general public to advocate/raise awareness for physiotherapy issues being encountered. The working group has gathered data from other professional toolkits and has created 4 letter templates which will be accessible for physiotherapists/the public via the NSPA website. The working group is in the planning phase of the next components of this toolkit.

## Looking Forward to 2020 Priorities

Strategic Priority: VALUE

### GOAL: PROMOTE THE VALUE OF PHYSIOTHERAPY TO THE PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDERS TO INFLUENCE THE HEALTH SYSTEM

#### **Goal 1: Position physiotherapy in relation to future health trends and population needs**

- Objective 3: Address needs of equity seeking groups to improve access to physiotherapy
  - Activities:
    - Form working group on equity and inclusion within the advocacy committee
    - Identify most significant issues and begin action planning

#### **Goal 2: Deliver high impact advocacy and lobbying on behalf of members**

- Objective 5: Identify new and upcoming issues that require lobbying efforts
  - Planning phase for potential initiatives:
    - women's health/perinatal care
    - refugee groups
    - private/public relationships

#### **Advocacy Committee Members 2019**

Jessica Bergevin, Stephen Richey, Agnes Madsen, Alison MacDonald, David Kachan, Liam McCormick, Sandra Curwin, Shannon MacDonald

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessica Bergevin,  
Committee Chair

