

ADVOCACY

NSPA ADVOCACY BEYOND THE PANDEMIC

In the fall of 2019, the NSPA circulated a survey to ask our members what topics were most important to them and where they would like us to dedicate our advocacy efforts on behalf of physiotherapists in Nova Scotia. As part of our strategic plan (2018-2023), our goals are to advocate for improving Access, Excellence, Capacity and Value. Of particular interest to physiotherapists across Nova Scotia, since the inception of this plan, is to ***promote/facilitate access to physiotherapy services***. This remains a primary issue for NSPA members and to further the work we have done to facilitate collaborative practice, and direct access without a doctor's referral, we are going to continue advocating in this area. Over the remaining 2.5 years of our strategic plan, there will be new issues and challenges that arise, some relating to the rapid changes that took place during the pandemic; however, we hope to maintain the gains made with insurance companies for telehealth coverage. With our goal of ***positioning physiotherapy in relation to future health trends and population needs***, members may see work being done to address the needs of equity seeking groups, improving the public-private relationship, or advocating for the advancement of women's health services, among our advocacy efforts. As always, we can't work alone and we will look to create advocacy opportunities for our members and provide opportunities for feedback on issues we need to become aware of.

Written by Jessica Bergevin, Advocacy Committee Chair