

REGISTERED NURSES KNOW

Solutions That Make Sense



Registered
Nurses'
Union

Newfoundland & Labrador



IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES & COST

There are many solutions, strategies, and perspectives.

This presentation and the solutions presented focus on the role of Registered Nurses – sharing the perspective of the largest group of health care providers.

There are over 5,200 Registered Nurses working in acute care, long-term care, community, education and research.



WHY DOES
HEALTH
CARE COST
SO MUCH?

**LARGE
LAND MASS**
+ **DISPERSED
POPULATION**

=

INCREASED
COSTS
 for all services,
including goods,
education, **and**
health care

HIGH
RATES OF:

- ✓ CHRONIC ILLNESS
- ✓ HEART DISEASE
- ✓ STROKE
- ✓ RISK FACTORS

NL has one of the unhealthiest populations in the country.

**RAPIDLY
AGING
POPULATION**





PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

Strengthening primary health care is key to creating a healthier population.

It is well-established that health systems with a strong primary care sector achieve **better health outcomes** at **lower cost**.

SOLUTION: Increase the number of Primary Health Care Teams.

NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Evidence shows utilizing Nurse Practitioners (NPs) leads to:

Timely access to health services

Decreased wait times

Improved patient outcomes

Decreased cost

SOLUTION: Increase the use of NPs in the system.

Fund NP-led clinics under the public system



Registered Nurses' Union
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A screenshot of a CBC News article. The top navigation bar is red with a white back arrow, the CBC News logo, a bookmark icon, and a share icon. The main image shows a woman with grey hair, wearing a blue patterned scrub top and a stethoscope, in a clinical setting. Below the image is the article title, a sub-headline, the date and time, the author's name, and the first paragraph of the article.

Patients in St. George's admit they were wrong, embrace nurse practitioner

Western Health considering incentives to encourage other nurses to train

Oct 30, 2017 12:34 PM NT

By Bernice Hillier, CBC News

A town in western Newfoundland that didn't want a nurse practitioner two years ago is now eager to welcome a new one to its local clinic.

MENTAL HEALTH



We are making progress and strengthening supports, but **investing more in early detection and intervention is critical.**

Increase in mental health issues, bullying, drug use and medical issues in the school system.

Education professionals spend increasing amounts of time addressing health-related issues.

SOLUTION: Invest in dedicated School Registered Nurses

STRONG PUBLIC HEALTH CARE

In-depth reviews on privatization in other provinces raise **significant concerns around quality of care, wait times, & cost.**

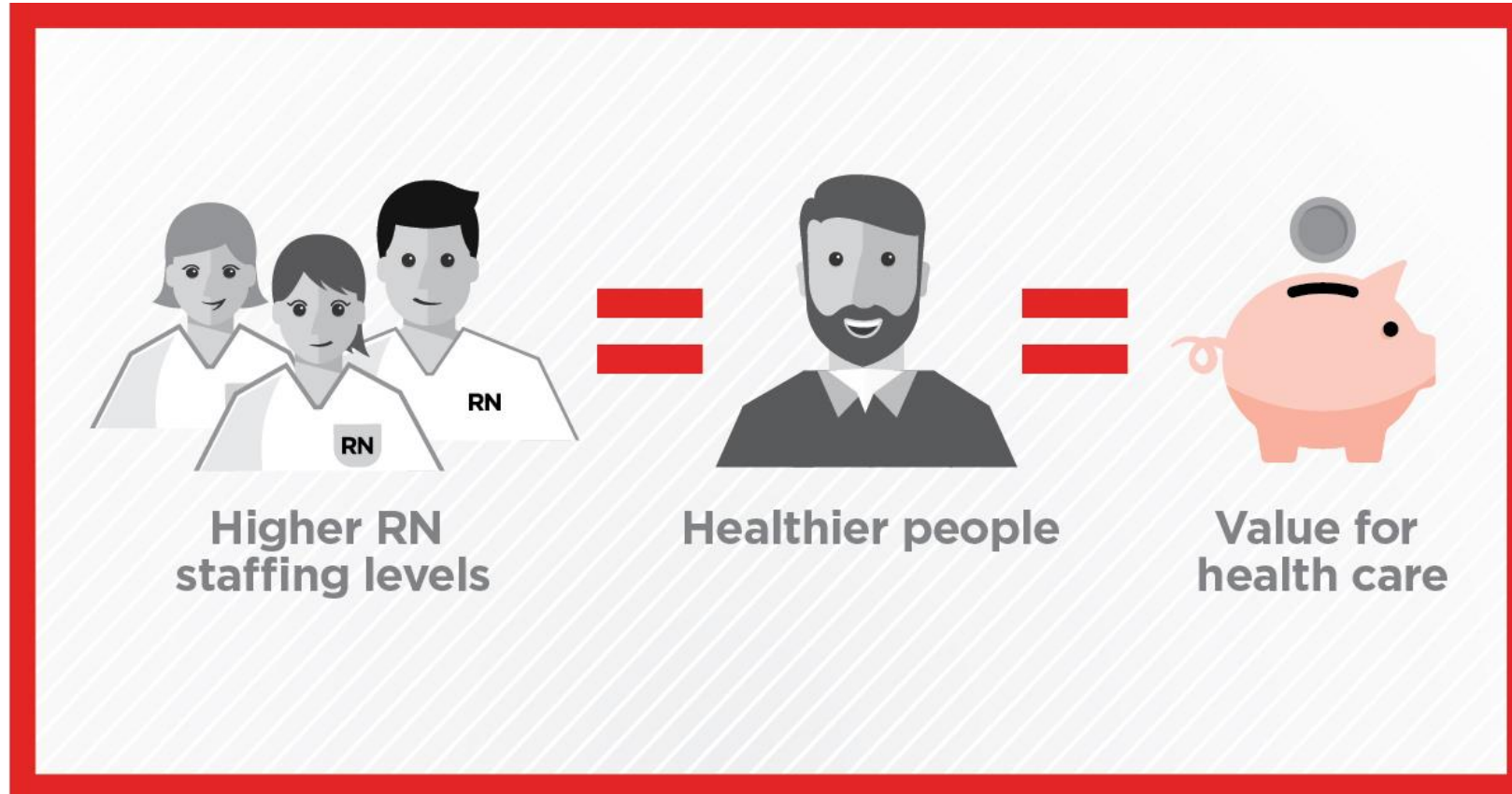
EKOS poll released last week:

- 93% of Canadians believe access to a strong national publicly funded health care system is very important.
- More than 60% of people believe a two-tiered system is fundamentally unfair.

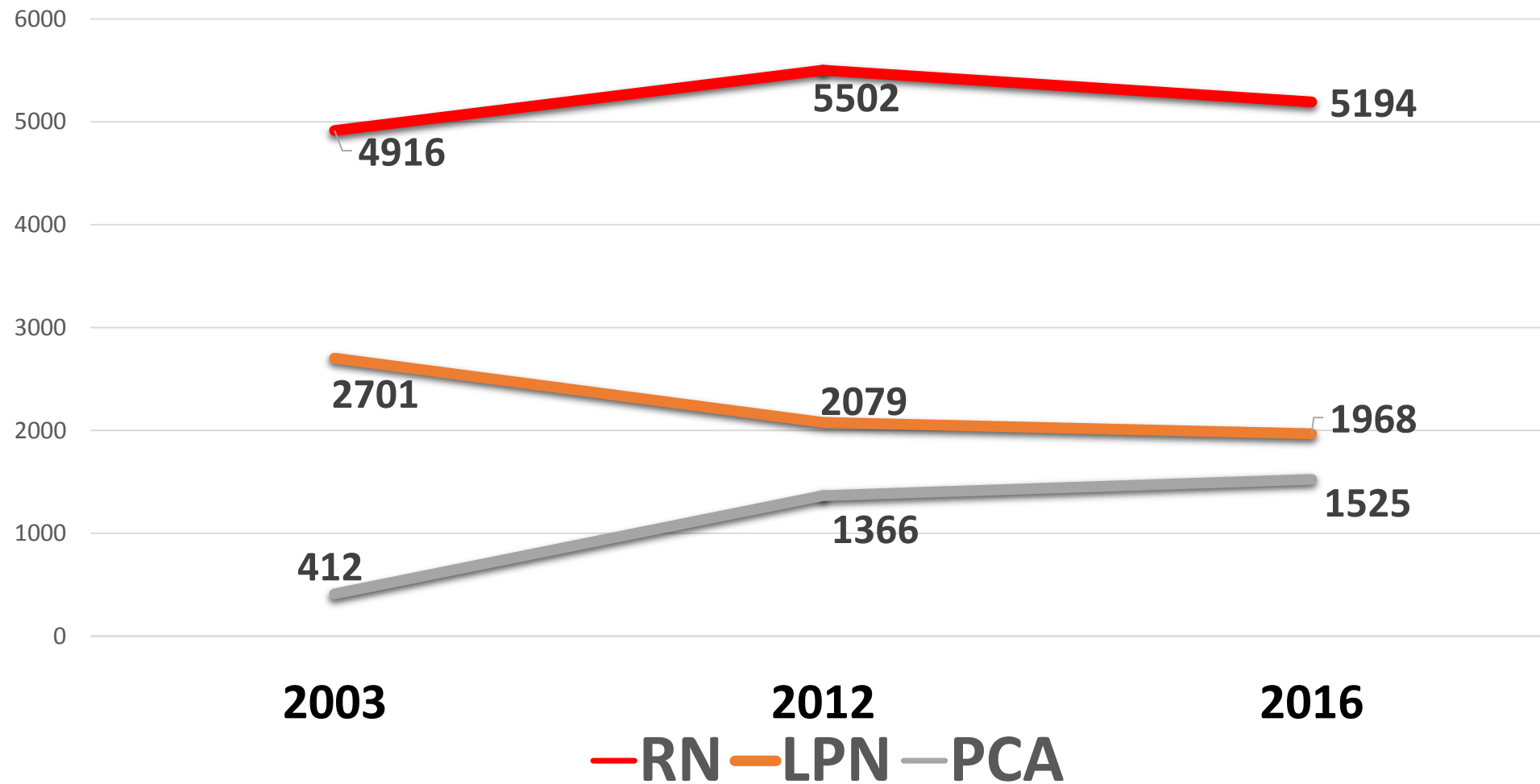
SOLUTION: Keep health care public and equal for all.



MORE FULL-TIME RNS CAN SAVE A LOT



RHA EMPLOYEE COUNTS



The number of unregulated providers has tripled.

Inadequate RN staffing is
negatively impacting patients
and costing our province money



DID YOU KNOW?

Last yr, RNs worked over 240,000 hours of overtime. Equals 123 full-time positions

Patient care & procedures are being delayed. Surgeries are cancelled because there aren't enough RNs

In long-term care, there can be just ONE RN on the nursing team for up to 80 residents. At night, ONE RN for 140 residents.

RNs routinely work short-staffed, at times forced to work 24 hours

Even if a day off is requested 6 months in advance, many RNs are refused due to short staffing issues

SAVING PATIENTS

Research Shows:

For every surgical patient added to the RN workload, the risk of patient complications and death increase by 8%

With more RNs, readmission of surgical patients may decrease by nearly 50%

With more RNs, patients who experience a cardiac arrest in hospital have a greater chance of survival

More RNs decrease falls, infections, and lengths of stay.

There is a cost savings associated with ALL OF THIS.



SAVING MONEY

\$47 million on vital overtime and sick leave for RNs in one year

300 procedures & surgeries cancelled at Eastern Health last year

Cost of care in NL:

- Average stay in hospital \$6,000
- Senior with urinary tract infection \$6,188
- Post-op complication, excluding hemorrhage \$5,813
- Pulmonary embolism \$6,384
- Aspiration pneumonia \$8,112

Canadian Institute for Health Information, 2014

THE ISSUE	A SOLUTION	HOW IT DIRECTLY & POSITIVELY EFFECTS HEALTH CARE	HOW IT DIRECTLY EFFECTS NL'S FISCAL SITUATION
<p>RNs are inadequately staffed and overworked.</p> <p>Puts patients at risk and incredible pressure on RNs.</p> <p>The health care system is hurting, in many ways, not efficient.</p>	<p>More full-time RNs in the system.</p> <p>Core staffing review based on patient acuity</p>	<p>The health care system will operate more effectively and efficiently.</p> <p>Direct positive affects on patient health outcomes.</p> <p>Improved work environments</p> <p>84% of NL'ers agree that there are not enough RNs to provide quality health care</p>	<p>Less unnecessary spending on overtime and sick leave, as RNs will be working in healthier work environments.</p> <p>Fewer readmissions complications, & cancelled procedures. ↓lengths of stay. A more efficient system</p>

MORE FULL-TIME RNS – IMPROVE PATIENT OUTCOMES & SAVE \$



more
FULL-TIME
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