

**Arthritis in Newfoundland and Labrador – A letter to Newfoundland and Labrador electoral candidates
(Email sent out date: May 6, 2019)**

Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts

Dear Electoral Candidate,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in Newfoundland and Labrador where more than 115,000 people – one in five voters - are living with the devastating and debilitating effects of arthritis.

Within a generation, more than one in four residents is expected to have the most life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis. To effectively treat and manage arthritis, the next elected Newfoundland and Labrador government must improve the level of arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

Arthritis is also the leading cause of disability and work disability in Newfoundland and Labrador, with nearly three out of every five people with arthritis of working age.

Arthritis Consumer Experts is asking Newfoundland and Labrador's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of residents living with arthritis and improve arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

We look forward to your Party's response to our attached survey titled: "Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in Newfoundland and Labrador."

Regards,

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