

**Arthritis in Newfoundland & Labrador – A letter to the Liberal Party of Newfoundland & Labrador**  
**Email sent out date: January 29, 2021**

**Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts**

Dear Electoral Candidate,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in Newfoundland & Labrador where one in five Newfoundland & Labrador voters live with arthritis.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking Newfoundland & Labrador's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 120,000 Newfoundland & Labrador residents living with arthritis.

The Liberal Party has stated they are committed to building a healthier province by:

- Positioning Newfoundland and Labrador as a national leader in eHealth by investing in technology and IT training and working in conjunction with the newly-created provincial Health Accord to ensure equitable access to health care services is achieved for all Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, including rural residents and isolated Indigenous communities.
- Ensuring a \$1 billion funding for provincial long-term care improvements.

As part of this commitment, ACE is interested your response to our attached survey titled: "[Share your plan for arthritis prevention, treatment and care in Newfoundland & Labrador.](#)"

Within a generation, the number of Newfoundland & Labrador residents with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – is expected to significantly increase. Two-thirds of people living with arthritis in Newfoundland & Labrador are under the age of 65. In fact, arthritis is the leading cause of work disability in Newfoundland & Labrador and the rest of Canada.

To effectively treat and manage arthritis, the next elected Newfoundland & Labrador government must improve the level of arthritis prevention, treatment and care.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn President, Arthritis Consumer Experts

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Office: 604-974-1355

## **Arthritis in Newfoundland & Labrador – A letter to Newfoundland & Labrador New Democratic Party**

**Email sent out date: January 29, 2021**

### **Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts**

Dear Electoral Candidate,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in Newfoundland & Labrador where one in five Newfoundland & Labrador voters live with arthritis.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking Newfoundland & Labrador's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 120,000 Newfoundland & Labrador residents living with arthritis.

The Newfoundland & Labrador NDP stated that in regards to health care, the NDP is committed to ensuring:

- Everyone has access to doctors and specialists with shorter wait times.
- Hospitals and communities have the equipment they need.
- The Medical Assistance Transportation Program is more accessible.
- Medication and dental care is available and affordable no matter where you live.
- There are no budget cuts to public health services.

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We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn President, Arthritis Consumer Experts

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**Arthritis in Newfoundland & Labrador – A letter to the Progressive Conservative Party of Newfoundland & Labrador**

**Email sent out date: January 29, 2021**

**Letter from Arthritis Consumer Experts**

Dear Electoral Candidate,

The arthritis community is a significant constituency in Newfoundland & Labrador where one in five Newfoundland & Labrador voters live with arthritis.

In the lead up to the provincial election, Arthritis Consumer Experts (ACE) is asking Newfoundland & Labrador's political leaders to share their plan on how to meet the needs of more than 120,000 Newfoundland & Labrador residents living with arthritis.

The Progressive Conservative Party of Newfoundland & Labrador 2021 platform on health states that your Party will:

- Create a province-wide network of primary healthcare teams to give patients access to comprehensive care, while allowing physicians to work in teams to provide greater care.
- Expand virtual care technologies to allow patients to access healthcare in any area of the province.
- Change Medical Transportation Assistance Plan to allow 100% reimbursement for medical travel.
- Work with nurse practitioners to create full-time, permanent positions in communities that need them.

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Within a generation, the number of Newfoundland & Labrador residents with the most disabling and life-threatening types – osteoarthritis and rheumatoid arthritis – is expected to significantly increase. Two-thirds of people living with arthritis in Newfoundland & Labrador are under the age of 65. In fact, arthritis is the leading cause of work disability in Newfoundland & Labrador and the rest of Canada.

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We look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,

Cheryl Koehn President, Arthritis Consumer Experts

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