



**Nurse Practitioners
Association of Canada**

**Association des
infirmières et
infirmiers praticiens
du Canada**

NPAC-AIIPC
1205-1033 Marinaside Crescent
Vancouver, BC
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March 25, 2026

The Honourable Marjorie Michel

Minister of Health
Health Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1A 0A6
E: hcminister.ministresc@hc-sc.gc.ca

Dr. Leigh Chapman

Chief Nursing Officer
Health Canada
Brooke Claxton Building
70 Colombine Driveway
Ottawa, ON K1A 0K9
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Dear Minister Michel and Dr. Chapman,

On behalf of the Nurse Practitioners Association of Canada (NPAC), we are writing to bring to your attention a systemic federal barrier affecting nurse practitioners across the country in their ability to serve patients efficiently and equitably.

We have received reports from our members of a recurring issue involving medical forms required by the Government of Canada Pension Centre. These forms restrict completion and signature to physicians only, explicitly excluding nurse practitioners, even though NPs are fully qualified and authorized within their scope of practice to conduct the assessments in question.

The consequences of this restriction are significant and impact patients, clinics, and the broader health system. In one documented example, a patient's pension-related medical form was rejected solely because it had been completed and signed by a nurse practitioner. The patient was required to return to the clinic, the form was forwarded to a physician — one who was not involved in the original assessment — for co-signature, and the patient then faced further delays before being able to resubmit their application. This experience is not isolated; it reflects a broader pattern that our members encounter when navigating federally administered programs.



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This requirement creates unnecessary administrative burden for patients, clinics, and physicians alike. More importantly, it fails to recognize the established and legislated scope of practice of nurse practitioners and undermines timely access to care for Canadians, particularly in communities where nurse practitioners serve as the primary or sole provider.

NPAC respectfully calls on the federal government to review and update the authorization requirements for federally administered medical forms, including those issued by the Government of Canada Pension Centre, to recognize nurse practitioners as authorized providers to complete medical assessments. Doing so would reduce inefficiencies, align federal policy with provincial and territorial scope of practice legislation, and better serve the Canadians who depend on these programs.

We welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss this issue further and are pleased to provide additional member accounts or supporting documentation as needed.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ellen Christie, MN, NP, PhD(c)
President

Dr. Stan Marchuk, DNP, MN, NP(F), FAANP
Chief Executive Officer