



**Nurse Practitioners
Association of Canada**

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

NPAC-AIIPC

1205-1033 Marinaside Crescent
Vancouver, BC
V6Z 3A3

August 17, 2026

The Honourable Ravi Kahlon

Minister of Health
Government of British Columbia
Victoria, British Columbia

Dear Minister Kahlon,

Re: Congratulations on Your Appointment as Minister of Health and Partnership with Nurse Practitioners

On behalf of the **Nurse Practitioner Association of Canada (NPAC-AIIPC)**, we are pleased to congratulate you on your appointment as British Columbia's Minister of Health.

You assume this portfolio at an important time for health care in British Columbia. Across the province, British Columbians continue to experience challenges accessing timely primary, acute, specialty, rural and community-based care. At the same time, the health system is confronting significant workforce pressures and the need to make better use of the highly skilled health professionals already practising in our communities.

Nurse practitioners are an essential part of that solution.

NPs are autonomous, regulated health professionals who assess, diagnose, prescribe, order and interpret diagnostic investigations, provide treatment, manage complex and chronic illness, and coordinate care across the health system. In British Columbia, NPs now practise across an increasingly broad range of settings from primary and urgent care to acute and specialty care areas inclusive of, cancer care, mental health and substance use, long-term care, palliative care, Indigenous health, and rural and remote communities.



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NPAC believes there is a significant opportunity for your Ministry to work with nurse practitioners and NP organizations to further strengthen access to care in British Columbia. In particular, we encourage continued attention to several priorities:

- **Expanding access to NP care across the health system**, including primary, acute, community and specialty care, rather than limiting workforce planning to any single sector or model of care.
- **Developing flexible and sustainable funding models** that enable NPs to deliver medically necessary services without financial barriers for patients and that support the full range of settings in which NPs practise.
- **Investing in NP workforce development**, including structured postgraduate residencies and fellowships that support transition to practice and advanced competency development in areas such as oncology, mental health, geriatrics, emergency care and other specialty services in demand.
- **Removing unnecessary administrative and policy barriers** that prevent NPs from working to their full legislated scope, including forms, programs and processes that continue to be designed around outdated assumptions about who may authorize or provide care.
- **Supporting workforce mobility and reducing regulatory and administrative burden**, while ensuring that NPs have a meaningful voice in decisions affecting NP regulation, education, practice and health-system planning.

These are not simply workforce issues. They directly affect whether British Columbians can access the care they need, when and where they need it.

As the national organization representing nurse practitioners and NP students, NPAC is committed to constructive collaboration with governments, health authorities, Indigenous health organizations, regulators, educators and provincial and territorial NP associations. We believe health-system transformation is strongest when the professionals delivering care are meaningfully engaged in designing the policies and models intended to improve it.



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We would welcome an opportunity to meet with you early in your mandate to discuss the contribution of nurse practitioners to British Columbia's health system share best practices to further improve access to care.

Minister Kahlon, congratulations again on your appointment. NPAC looks forward to working with you and your Ministry to advance a more accessible, sustainable and responsive health system for people throughout British Columbia.

Sincerely,

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

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