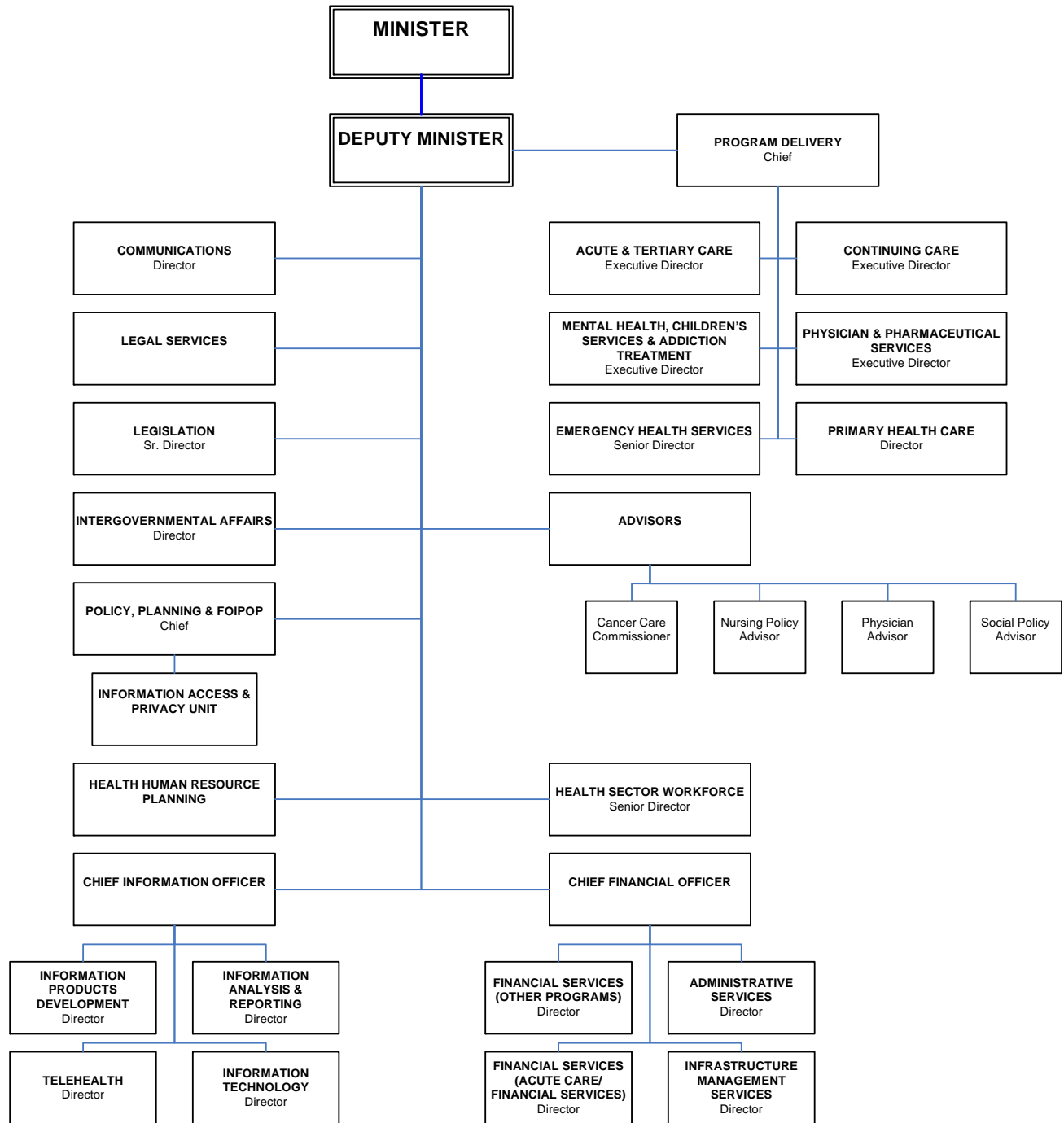


# Department of Health



Note:

- Legal Services staff report to the Department of Justice and Communications staff report to Communications Nova Scotia

## Responsibilities

### **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Responsible for strategic positioning of critical government health issues through negotiation and collaboration between federal/provincial/territorial, municipal, and First Nations governments to limit risks and exposures to the province while maximizing overall benefits.

### **ADVISORS TO THE DEPUTY MINISTER**

- Cancer Care Commissioner
- Nursing Policy Advisor
- Physician Advisor
- Social Policy Advisor

### **CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER**

#### **Information Analysis and Reporting**

Responsible for developing measures of health system performance, population health and health service needs. Responsible for reporting and explaining these measures to the Department, public and health system administrators. Information Analysis and Reporting is the primary manager of key health databases and data quality improvements.

#### **Information Products Development**

Responsible for providing new information products for the health care system with the primary focus on wait times.

#### **Information Technology**

Ensures that information technology and systems support the Department's mandate, goals and objectives including responsibility for help desk support, new systems development and approval and electronic health record strategy.

#### **TeleHealth**

Provides strategic and operational leadership for the Nova Scotia TeleHealth Network by using videoconferencing equipment to provide patient care and education sessions.

### **CHIEF, POLICY, PLANNING AND FOIPOP**

Leads the translation of the strategic directions of the department to the delivery of health care programs through plan development and management plan implementation and leads the department in organization development and transformation.

### **Information Access and Privacy Unit**

The mandate of the Information Access and Privacy Unit is to lead the development of policy, standards and processes for the responsible management of health information with a focus on access and privacy.

### **HEALTH HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING**

Responsible for planning, analysis, and research leading to reports and recommendations for the Minister and Deputy Minister regarding new legislation, policies, or procedures dealing with the numbers and types of health personnel to be trained, financially supported, or accepted by way of immigration, or policies to ensure proper distribution of resources to areas most in need.

### **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

#### **Financial Services (Acute Care / Insured Services)**

Responsible for budgeting and control services for all funding related to the operations of provincial Health Service programs.

#### **Financial Services (Other Programs)**

Responsible for budgeting and control services for all funding relating to the operations of provincial programs with the Continuing Care and Emergency Health Services Branch.

#### **Administrative Services**

Responsible for corporate administrative matters within the department, which includes records management, central registry services, space planning, and administration. Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee and all administrative matters arising therefrom.

#### **Infrastructure Management Services**

Ensures effective stewardship of the health care building infrastructure in both acute and long term care sectors.

### **HEALTH SECTOR WORKFORCE**

Manages all aspects of the internal human resources function for employees in the department, including interfacing with counterparts throughout the broader health care sector regarding major human resource issues and processes such as labour relations and human resource management.

## **CHIEF, PROGRAM DELIVERY**

### **Acute and Tertiary Care**

Acute Care enables and supports the district health authorities and provincial health care centres in an array of health care services that is sustainable for the future.

Responsible for ancillary health care programs including Senior Pharmacare Services, Children's Oral Health Program, Optometric Program, Prosthesis Program, and Special Dental Programs.

### **Continuing Care**

Develops and implements policy and standards for Continuing Care services for the province. This includes core programs in Long Term Care, Adult Protection, and Home Care to ensure that these programs are effective and integrated.

### **Mental Health, Children's Services and Addiction Treatment**

Responsible for planning and developing policies and programs in Mental Health, Children's and Addiction Treatment, including consulting and negotiating extensively with service providers and other government departments to achieve buy-in and identify feasibility issues and the service and financial implications.

### **Physician and Pharmaceutical Services**

Responsible for health programs on an individual basis by health professionals including MSI physician services. Programs are provided under the Health Services and Insurance Act, Canada Health Act, and Hospitals Act of Nova Scotia.

### **Primary Health Care**

Responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of health department initiatives in Primary Health Care

### **Emergency Health Services**

Responsible for the development, implementation, and evaluation of health department initiatives in Emergency Health Services

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The Communications Section provides support to the Minister and the Deputy Minister of Health, as well as to all Branches and Divisions of the Department. They are responsible for responding to community and media inquiries, writing speeches, preparing Briefing materials, news releases and written documents, such as brochures. The Director, Advisors, and Officers are employees of Communications Nova Scotia,

but have offices within the Department of Health. There are currently 6 employees in this Section. In addition, the Communications Section includes the Department's Webmaster.

### **LEGISLATION**

The Legislation section coordinates and reviews all acts and regulations administered by the Department of Health. This includes consultation with stakeholders and monitoring regulatory trends in other jurisdictions to inform the department and government when new laws and regulations are being developed.

### **LEGAL SERVICES**

Legal Services, under the umbrella of the Department of Justice, provides legal advice and assistance when required by the Minister of Health, Deputy Minister and all divisions of the department.

## **Acts Administered as of March 1, 2006**

*Adult Protection Act*

*AIDS Advisory Commission Act*

*Anatomy Act*

*Chiropractic Act*

*Co-ordinated Home Care Act*

*Dental Act*

*Dental Technicians Act*

*Denturists Act*

*Dispensing Opticians Act (replacement Act, not proclaimed)*

*Drug Dependency Foundation Act*

*Emergency Health Services Act*

*Health Act*

*Health Authorities Act (amended, not proclaimed)*

*Health Council Act*

*Health Council Appointments (1998) Act*

*Health Research Foundation Act*

*Health Services and Insurance Act*

*Healthcare Services Continuation (2001) Act*

*Homes for Special Care Act (shared with Community Services)*

*Hospital Services Planning Commission Act*

*Hospital Trusts Act*

*Hospitals Act*  
*Human Tissue Gift Act*  
*Involuntary Psychiatric Treatment Act (not proclaimed)*  
*Izaak Walton Killam Health Centre Act*  
*Licensed Practical Nurses Act*  
*Massage Therapy Act (not proclaimed)*  
*Medical Act*  
*Medical Consent Act*  
*Medical Laboratory Technology Act*  
*Medical Professional Corporations Act*  
*Medical Radiation Technologists Act*  
*Medical Services Act*  
*Medical Society Act*  
*Municipal Hospitals Loan Act*  
*Nova Scotia Hospital Act*  
*Nova Scotia Hospital Foundation Act*  
*Occupational Therapists Act*  
*Optometry Act (replacement Act, not proclaimed)*  
*Paramedics Act (not proclaimed)*  
*Pharmacy Act*  
*Physiotherapy Act*  
*Prescription Monitoring Act*  
*Professional Dietitians Act*  
*Protection of Persons in Care Act (shared with Community Services, not proclaimed)*  
*Psychologists Act*  
*Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Centre Act*  
*Registered Nurses Act*  
*Self-managed Support-care Act*  
*Social Assistance Act (shared with Community Services)*