



News Release

For Immediate Release

Paramedic Association of Newfoundland and Labrador Holds First Advocacy/Lobby Day

(05 NOVEMBER 2019, ST. JOHN'S, NL) Teamsters Local 855 was pleased to be able to participate in PANL's Inaugural Advocacy/Lobby Day.

On November 5, 2019, paramedics from across Newfoundland and Labrador participated in the Paramedic Association of Newfoundland and Labrador's (PANL) Inaugural Advocacy/Lobby Day.

The advocacy day began on the evening of November 4 with a two-hour government relations training session led by Summa Strategies. The session gave paramedics an overview of the current provincial political landscape and how to get the most out of their meetings the next day. This session was followed by a discussion of key issues and the talking points that had been prepared for them in advance. Paramedics were given the opportunity to review their schedules and get together with members of their meeting teams.

On November 5th, paramedics met with Members of the House of Assembly (MHA) of all political stripes to discuss the delays in the new Procurement process necessary for advancement of changes to the Private and Community based Ambulance sector, The Fitch Report, discussing the recommendations outlined and their implementation in a timely manner and Mental Health Services how continued funding is crucial to the well-being of Paramedics and their families. Delegates also attended Question Period.

In total, paramedics met with over 30 MHA's. There were also meetings scheduled with Ministers and/or their staff, and the PC Caucus. In almost all of the team scenarios, each paramedic met individually with an average of three MHAs.

Paramedics received the following materials, in a PANL-branded folder, as part of their overall package:

- Personalized schedule including MHA's biographies;
- MHA briefing documents (covering all priority topics discussed during the meeting). Leave-behind material was provided.

Paramedics received their packages prior to the advocacy day so that they could become familiar with the issues before meetings.

The feedback that paramedics received from MHAs was very positive and most MHAs expressed a desire to schedule follow-up meetings to help advance the goals to better our current system, to improve patient care. Paramedic participating also expressed that they felt this was a very positive experience.



More information available on PANL's Facebook page @panlemsnl or by emailing contactus@panl.ca

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