



Canadian Cancer Society

Policy Survey 2018

1 If elected, will your party implement a formal cancer patient navigation system? What is your party position? What actions will you take?

Our government is establishing a formal cancer patient navigation program (Commitment #105) in cooperation with the New Brunswick Cancer Network (NBCN). As a first step to designing and implementing the cancer patient navigation program, NBCN conducted a community consultation with key stakeholders around the province. The goal of this consultation was to identify barriers to accessing services and supportive care for cancer patients and their families. NBCN subsequently developed a program design based on the findings of the community consultation, literature review and an environmental scan of cancer patient navigation programs and best practices in other jurisdictions.

The NB Cancer Patient Navigation Program design recommendations were finalized and approved by the Department of Health in June 2018. The Cancer Patient Navigator job description has been finalized and an interim rating obtained from the Treasury Board (July 2018). Current on-going activities include finalizing budgetary details based on the interim rating for the Cancer Patient Navigator position; discussing job description with regional health authorities (intent, funding, timelines for hiring); establishing an Advisory Committee of key stakeholders to advise and facilitate coordinated development, implementation and on-going monitoring and evaluation of the NB Cancer Patient Navigation Program, once the navigators are hired. The timing of the full implementation is dependent on the duration of the hiring process for cancer patient navigators.

2 If elected, what will your party do to ensure access to take-home cancer drugs for all New Brunswickers? What is your party position? What actions will you take?

We would be prepared to consult further with the Canadian Cancer Society on access to take-home cancer drugs.

3 If elected, what new actions will your party take to reduce tobacco-use in New Brunswick towards achieving the objective of under 5% tobacco-user by 2035?

We recently raised the tobacco tax twice - a decision opposed by the Progressive Conservative opposition. We created a contraband enforcement unit to target contraband tobacco sales that might increase as a result of our decision to raise tobacco taxes. If reelected, we would be ready to meet to discuss the appropriate level of funding for an anti-tobacco strategy.

4 If elected, will your party proceed with the implementation of the New Brunswick Palliative Care Strategy? What is your party position? What actions will you take?

Our government released, on April 19th, 2018, the framework for a palliative care strategy to guide the development of action plans, policies, programs and services under the Provincial Palliative Care Strategy.

The framework outlines strategic directions and is intended to guide regional health authorities, health-care providers and community organizations in planning integrated palliative and end-of-life care services.

An advisory committee, led by the New Brunswick Cancer Network and composed of representatives from palliative care, health care and community stakeholders, will develop an action plan.

The framework is centred upon strategic pillars developed under five themes: person-centred care; family support network inclusion; professional capacity; community capacity; and regional health authority, Extra-Mural/Ambulance New-Brunswick and provincial leadership.

A reelected Liberal government will continue to implement the framework for a palliative care strategy.