

Provincial Updates 2012 – Nova Scotia – Robert Bartlett, v2

September 6, 2012

1. The information you provide pertains to which province or territory?

Province or territory

Please select

NS

2. Indicate today's date

Month

Day

Year

Please select

September

6

2012

3. First and last name

Robert Bartlett

4. Trans-related affiliation (e.g.: GP serving the trans communities, civil rights advocate or lawyer, social worker, surgeon, member of an advocacy group, mental health professional, gender studies student, etc...)

Social Worker

5. Do GPs accept trans patients?

Yes

5-7

6. If your answer above is positive, are GPs willing to initiate hormone treatment?

Yes

7. If your answer above is positive, are those services provided in...

Rural setting?

8. Are there GPs who specialize in trans health care?

No

9. If your answer above is positive, are those services provided in...

No Response

10. If your answer is negative, where are trans clients referred?

Clients who identify as transgender can be referred to outpatient mental health clinics, Transgender health teams in hospital setting, Counsellors, Psychotherapists, Psychiatrists, public health nurses - an assortment of private and public health care professionals

11. Is there trans health training offered to health professionals interested in trans health?

Yes

There has been speciality training opportunities offered in the Province of Nova Scotia several times over the recent past (Hormone Assessment and Readiness Education)

12. Is there a "community of practice" of health professionals (by that we mean the health professionals serving trans communities getting together to exchange referrals, knowledge and support)?

Yes

Halifax, Nova Scotia

13. Are the following health professionals seeing trans clients/patients?

| | Yes | No |
|----------------|-----|----|
| Psychiatrists | X | |
| Psychologists | X | |
| Counselors | X | |
| Social Workers | X | |

Comments:

14. If yes, how many of these professionals see trans clients/patients? (approx. is OK)

Psychiatrists - 5

Psychologists - 4

Counselors - 7

Social Workers - 9

15. If yes, is it privately or publicly funded?

| | Private pay | Public pay |
|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Psychiatrists | X | X |
| Psychologists | X | |
| Counselors | X | X |
| Social Workers | | X |

Comments:

16. If yes, is there a yearly quota imposed by the health ministry on how many clients/patients will be covered, if so, how many?

No Response

17. Do these professionals write letters of support for hormone therapy or surgery?

Yes

18. Are Surgical Reassignment Surgeries performed in your province?

| | Yes | No |
|-------------------------------------|-----|----|
| Mastectomy with chest contouring | | X |
| Mastectomy without chest contouring | | X |
| Hysterectomy | | X |
| Oophorectomy | | X |
| Metaoidioplasty | | X |
| Phalloplasty | | X |
| Breast augmentation | | X |

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Tracheal shaving | X |
| Facial feminization | X |
| Penectomy | X |
| Orchiectomy | X |
| Vaginoplasty | X |

Comments:

19. If yes, are these surgeries privately or publicly funded?

No Response

20. If SRS are publicly funded, are there clients sent out of province or country for their surgeries, which ones?

No Response

21. If SRS are publicly funded, and clients/patients wish to go out of province or country, is this permitted?

No Response

22. If SRS are publicly funded, is there a yearly quota imposed by the health ministry on how many surgeries will be covered, if so, how many?

No Response

23. Do trans patients/clients have access to post-surgery (SRS) care?

| | Yes | No |
|----------------|-----|----|
| GPs | X | |
| Emergency room | X | |
| Urologist | X | |
| Gynecologist | X | |
| Surgeon | | |

Comments:

24. Are there endocrinologists seeing trans patients?

2

25. Where are endocrinological referrals sent if not available in your province?

No Response

26. Are there speech therapists seeing trans patients?

| | Yes | No |
|-----|-----|----|
| FTM | X | |
| MTF | X | |

Comments:

27. If your answer above is positive, is the service private pay or is it publicly funded?

| | Private pay | Publicly funded |
|-----|-------------|-----------------|
| FTM | X | |
| MTF | X | |

Comments:

28. Are there health professionals accepting referrals for gender independent (gender non-conforming) children and adolescents?

Yes

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29. Are puberty blockers being prescribed?

| | Yes | No |
|--|-----|----|
|--|-----|----|

GPs

Pediatric Endocrinologists

Comments?: Unknown at this time. An answer will be given at later date for the province of Nova Scotia

30. Are there health care professionals who treat trans patients (children or adults) with reparative (or corrective) therapy?

No

31. Is electrolysis for transwomen privately or publicly funded?

Privately

32. Are hormone readiness assessments provided?

Yes

33. If hormone readiness assessments are available, are they provided in

Urban setting?

Rural setting?

34. If hormone readiness assessments are available, what is the protocol used?

WPATH SOC7

35. If hormone readiness assessments are available, how many health professionals provide them? (Approx. number OK)

No Response

36. If hormone readiness assessments are available, is RLE required?

No

The persons training in Hormone Readiness Assessments were educated to follow the WPATH Standards of Care V7.

37. If hormone readiness assessments are available, are there any specific public insurance requirements?

Hormones are covered by private plans, predominantly. Each private medical plan has own clauses and I am unable to assess if there are standardized requirements

38. If hormones readiness assessments are available, who provides them?

Psychologist?

Social worker?

Counselor?

Psychiatrist?

GPs

Nurses

39. Are SRS readiness assessments provided?

Yes

40. If SRS readiness assessments are available, are they provided in

Urban Setting?

Rural Setting?

41. If SRS readiness assessments are available, what is the protocol used?

WPATH SOC7

42. If SRS readiness assessments are available, how many health professionals provide them? (Approx. number OK)

Answer to be coming

43. If SRS readiness assessments are available, is RLE required?

Yes

44. If SRS readiness assessments are available, are there any specific public insurance requirements?

There are no public insurance requirements for providing the Surgical Reassignment Surgery Readiness assessments in the province of Nova Scotia.

45. If SRS readiness assessments are available, who provides them?

Psychologist?

Social worker?

Counselor?

Psychiatrist?

Health Care Professionals who have received training in such SRS readiness assessments

46. Are there trans peer support groups in your province?

Yes

The Youth Project - youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca Trans Family Nova Scotia Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project LGBTQ groups at the main Universities and Colleges (SMU-Q, Mount Pride, DalOUT) PFLAG An assortment of others.

47. Are these support groups professionally led or volunteer (non-professionally) led?

| | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|
| Professionals | X | |
| Volunteers | X | |

If yes, please share the name/s of the group/s and their contact info/website:

48. Are there support groups for gender independent (gender non-conforming) youth?

Yes

The Youth Project offers support services across the province of Nova Scotia, physically located in the Halifax area. youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca

49. Are these support groups professionally led or volunteer (non-professionally) led?

| | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|
| Professionals | X | |
| Volunteers | X | |

Comments:

50. Are there support groups for gender independent (gender non-conforming) children?

No

Not at present. The Youth Project does not have a minimum age, however, attendance in the "Transformers" group is predominately adolescents.

51. Are these support groups professionally led or volunteer (non-professionally) led?

| | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|
| Professionals | | X |
| Volunteers | | X |

Comments:

52. Is there support for families and loved ones?

Yes

PLAG atlantic - halifaxns@pflagcanada.ca Trans Family of Nova Scotia - transfamily@eastlink.ca Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project - <http://nsrap.ca/> The Youth Project - youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca

53. Are these support groups professionally led or volunteer (non-professionally) led?

| | Yes | No |
|---------------|-----|----|
| Professionals | X | |
| Volunteers | X | |

Comments:

54. Are there advocacy groups for trans human rights In your province?

| | Yes | No |
|--------------------------|-----|----|
| Grassroots organizations | X | |
| Lawyers organizations | X | |

If yes, please share the name/s of the group/s and their contact info/website:

55. Do you have any more comments?

No Response

56. Is there trans Human Rights legislation being proposed?

No Response

57. Does your Education Ministry have LGBT anti-bullying policies in public schools?

Yes

58. Is there legislation that does not follow WPATH SOC v.7 being proposed?

No Response

59. Can FTM have the sex marker on their birth certificate changed?

Yes

A gender marker can be changed by vital stats here in NS on a birth certificate and it is done provided surgery has been performed. It is not clear what surgery. It requires a letter from the surgeons and la letter from the family physician. Once those are provided and the proper forms are filled out then a new birth certificate is issued with a different gender marker.

60. Can MTF have the sex marker on their birth certificate changed?

Yes

A gender marker can be changed by vital stats here in NS on a birth certificate and it is done provided surgery has been performed. It is not clear what surgery. It requires a letter from the surgeons and la letter from the family physician. Once those are provided and the proper forms are filled out then a new birth certificate is issued with a different gender marker.

61. Can FTM change the sex marker on their driver's license?

Yes

Once the gender marker has been changes on birth certificate, it can be taken to Motor Vehicles and your license can be changed.

62. Can MTF change the sex marker on their driver's license?

Yes

Once the gender marker has been changes on birth certificate, it can be taken to Motor Vehicles and your license can be changed.

63. Do you have an positive and ongoing relationship with "political" allies in your provincial legislature?

Yes

64. Is there other information and data you would have liked to see in this survey? If so, please share:

No Response

65. What are you doing in your province that is successful?

No Response

66. What are the next steps in expanding accessible competent trans health care in your province?

No Response