



- There is now one **central cost centre for both Language Line phone interpretation and face-to-face interpretation through Nova Scotia Interpreting Services**. Having all charges paid by a central cost centre removes any financial impact on individual departments, making the service more accessible.
- **Use of both telephone and face-to-face interpretation services is increasing**. In 2013-14, we saw a 50 per cent increase in calls to Language Line and a 22 per cent increase in calls to Nova Scotia Interpreting Services.
- The Nova Scotia Coalition on Community Interpreting, which includes Capital Health's Interpretation Service and many other partners, has created **Guidelines for Government on the standardization of interpretation services in Nova Scotia**.
- **New self-check-in registration kiosks for outpatient appointments will soon offer the option of French screens**. Screens are expected to be in place by spring 2015.
- **We have seen an increase in requests for materials to be translated**. This year we received a total of 113 translation requests compared to 43 last year.
- **A policy is being developed about the translation of printed materials**. This policy is expected to come into effect by February 2015.
- We have opened a **new Place of Prayer and Meditation** on the upper floor of the Cobequid Community Health Centre. This is one of several such spaces throughout the district.
- **The Community Health & Wellness Centre**, serving the communities of North and East Preston, Cherry Brook and Lake Loon, offers an interdisciplinary team approach to care with the IWK and other partners. Over the past summer and fall, we have expanded wellness programs and primary care services to better meet the needs of these communities.
- **Capital Health has allocated \$7,000 for bursaries to be granted to youth who are pursuing studies in the health professions and are from one of four priority communities**: Aboriginals, African Nova Scotians, people with disabilities, and new immigrants. Community Health Boards will be responsible for distribution of the bursaries and an advisory committee will provide input on the process and criteria. The advisory committee is made up of three community health board members and representatives from Nova Scotia Community College, Dalhousie University, Independent Living Nova Scotia, YWCA Immigrant Program and the Native Council of Nova Scotia. The first bursaries will be awarded in March 2015.
- **Addictions and Mental Health Services have been developing new relationships with the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre**. The sharing of two talking circles and the implementation of a dedicated outreach worker have created important connections between the urban Aboriginal

community and Addictions and Mental Health Services.

- The **Nova Scotia Brotherhood Initiative** is a unique approach to providing access to primary health care for African Nova Scotian men. The Department of Health and Wellness has recently approved funding for this developing initiative. Primary Health Care, in partnership with African Nova Scotian Affairs, is now working to implement this model in several communities within Capital Health. Additionally, in partnership with others, the Nova Scotia Brotherhood initiative offers ongoing outreach activities to African Nova Scotia men on various health and wellness topics.
- **Staff from Cole Harbour Community Mental Health, Addictions and Seniors, have strong working relationships within the North and East Preston communities.** In addition to providing mental health and addiction interventions, they build capacity in the community, advocating for individuals living with mental health and addictions. Staff also consult with other providers in the community about mental health and addictions issues.
- **Immigrant Settlement and Integration Services' Newcomers Community Health Project** is a three-year community-based project focused on building community capacity to address mental health and addictions needs among newcomers. The program emphasizes health promotion and resilience. Capital Health Addictions and Mental Health staff sit on the steering committee, are involved in the consultation process and act as liaisons with the community.
- As in past years, **Capital Health participated proudly in this year's Halifax Pride Parade.** You can **view a video** showcasing this year's pride parade – and the prideHealth program – by visiting <http://www.cdha.nshealth.ca/pridehealth/videos>.