

Shelburne Community Partners / Nova Scotia Health Update

June 2026

Ultrasound Unit now operational and serving patients

- Roseway Hospital Ultrasound service is now fully operational. Tests are currently being performed one to two days per week with an average of 10 patients seen per day. This is helping to provide more healthcare services close to home for many residents of Shelburne and Shelburne County who will not have to travel to Yarmouth or Bridgewater for service.
- Congratulations to the Roseway Hospital Charitable Foundation on reaching your fundraising goal. We are so grateful to the Foundation and all the community donors who have done so much to make this a reality.



Bedside inpatient room telephones discontinued

- Bedside telephones have been phased out by Bell Aliant at Nova Scotia Health facilities, including Roseway Hospital as of May 31, 2026. Bell Aliant ended the service due to aging infrastructure and dropping demand for the service.
- To stay in touch with family and friends, hospital patients are encouraged to bring a cell phone or other personal communication device along with charging equipment for any hospital stay. Many inpatient medical units will have a mobile phone available for patients to use if they do not have a personal device. Patients or family members are encouraged to talk to a member of their care team.
- This change does not affect hospital operations or emergency services. More information about [changes to inpatient bedside telephone service is online.](#)

Virtual Urgent Care now LPN led at Roseway

Virtual Urgent Care open daily from 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. (patients registered up to 7 p.m.)

- Earlier this spring, Virtual Urgent Care at Roseway Hospital transitioned to be led by a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), as opposed to a clerical support person.
- This new model is working well and means patients that require some nursing intervention can still receive care if they meet the Virtual Urgent Care criteria.
- On-site, in-person staff are always available to help patients use Virtual Urgent Care.

Have you heard? Virtual Urgent Care radio advertising sees growth in use

- Earlier this year, Nova Scotia Health launched a public awareness campaign to increase understanding and appropriate use of Virtual Urgent Care at hospitals like Roseway, by helping residents recognize it as a faster, supported, and accessible option for urgent but non-life-threatening health concerns.
- Radio advertising was a major part of the campaign, and ads ran across the province, including CKBW and Y95-CJLS.
- As the awareness campaign gained steam, Virtual Urgent Care utilization in western zone grew to its highest levels since the service was introduced.
- Roseway Hospital continues to be a leader in Western Zone in patient use of Virtual Urgent Care, while the Western Zone consistently leads the province.



Staffing highlights - welcome to new team members

- Roseway Hospital is welcoming another three new graduate Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) who will be joining the team on the Medical Unit in mid-June. Welcome aboard and best of luck as you start your careers at Roseway.
- We are also pleased to welcome a Registered Nurse (RN) who will be relocating to our area from the United States to work full time on the Medical Unit. Another RN will be joining us from British Columbia who will work in our Emergency Department. We expect the new team members will be on board in July-August.
- Two new Continuing Care Assistants (CCAs) have joined the team on the Medical Unit, with a new Ward Clerk being hired as well.
- We are looking forward to Dr. Fatokun returning to do some occasional hospitalist work with us. We also hope to report some more good news about potential new physicians joining the inpatient hospitalist schedule in the future.

Discover Careers in Health Fair another great success

- Roseway Hospital staff and Nova Scotia Health teams were pleased to share their experiences with close to 100 high school students from Shelburne, Barrington, Lockeport, North Queens and Liverpool at the third annual Discover Careers in Health Fair. Nova Scotia Health joined community partners such as Nova Scotia Works, the Office of Healthcare Professionals Recruitment and the Municipality of Shelburne to provide a chance for people to meet professionals and ask questions. Thank you to our community partners for hosting an outstanding opportunity for young people.

(photo credit: Municipality of Shelburne)



Primary Health Update: Recruitment Continues

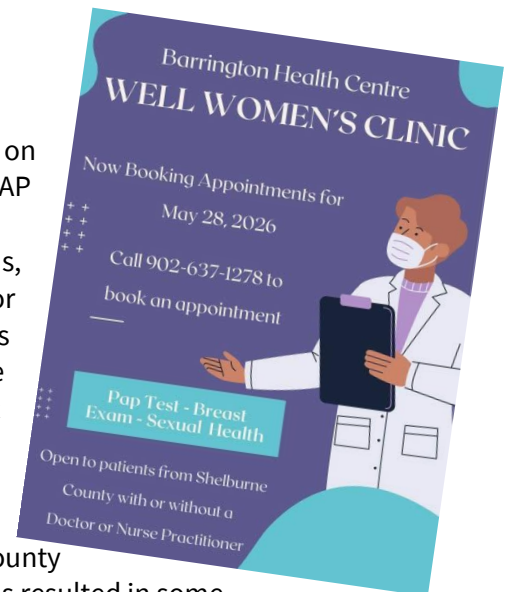
- The number of family physicians at the Shelburne Family Practice is now at four with Dr. Balogun, Dr. Khan, Dr. Alenabi and Dr. Onwubuariri.
- Dr. Alenabi is now working at the Barrington Clinic three days each week and one day each week at the Harbour South Medical Clinic. She is continuing to provide care for all of her patients, however is working to transition approximately half of her patients to another provider as appropriate.
- The Physician Assistant (PA) that was noted in our last report has started with the family practice team as of April. The Physician Assistant is working with Dr. Balogun and Dr. Khan. Over time, it is expected the introduction of the PA will help reduce the wait time for an appointment for patients of these physicians.
- The renovations to the Barrington Community Health Clinic are now complete. The work was done to construct two additional patient exam rooms. The more appropriate clinical space will help support recruitment in the area and also provide an exam room for Dr. Alenabi and her patients.

New patients continue to be accepted by Shelburne Family Practice

- **269 patients** have been rostered to a nurse practitioner or family physician with Shelburne Family Practice since last report (from Feb. to April 2026).

Well Women Clinics well attended

- Well Women Clinic held at Barrington Community Health Clinic on February 10 and April 21 with 12 patients seen at each clinic. PAP appointments are available in Shelburne on an as needed basis.
- Clinics offer services such as pap tests, breast exams, contraceptive counselling, and sexual health care services for patients with or without a provider by appointment. Screening is completed by nurse prior to booking. Check the Shelburne Family Practice Facebook page for updates -OR- call the clinic **902-637-1278**.



Primary Care Clinics – February – April, 2026

- The Primary Care Clinic (PCC) is for people living in Shelburne County who do not have a regular family provider. A leave of absence has resulted in some reduced appointment availability in the PCC in Shelburne, with Lockport Clinics temporarily on hold.
 - 132 Shelburne Primary Care Clinic visits (Feb.-April)
 - 34 Lockport Clinic visits-Thursdays (Feb.-April)
 - 91 Clarks Harbour Clinic visits-Mondays (Feb.-April)

Shelburne Same Day Clinic

- The Shelburne Same Day Clinic continues to operate 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays.
- There are 18 appointments available with an average of 16.6 patient visits each clinic and a range of 15-18 visits per clinic from February 1 to April 30, 2026.
- Clinic continues to be well received by community. Data indicates the majority of patients seen at each clinic are attached to a primary care provider (approximately 70% attached)
- People with a primary care provider should always contact their provider first when seeking care. Other options in the area include:
 - [Virtual Urgent Care](#) at Roseway Hospital, **Monday to Sunday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.** (patients accepted up to 60 minutes before closing)
 - Community pharmacy primary care clinic at TLC Pharmasave in Shelburne: <https://pans.ns.ca/CPGCC>
 - Shelburne Primary Care Clinic: 902-875-2321 to ask about available appointments
 - [VirtualCareNS | Nova Scotia Health](#)
 - YourHealthNS can help people in Shelburne / Shelburne County navigate the different options to access care. Download the app on a mobile device, or visit on computer: <https://www.yourhealthns.ca/>

“THANK YOU” to our Community Partners

- In the past few months, we have celebrated Doctor’s Day, Nurses Week, Physiotherapy Month, Pharmacy Appreciation, National Social Workers month, and a number of other special recognition events to acknowledge our many healthcare professions. Everyone at Roseway Hospital and Shelburne Family Practice is deeply grateful for the support demonstrated by our community partners. For example the Municipality of Shelburne is always generous with gifts, treats and special events, such as the recent “Paint Night” which was well-attended and enjoyed by all.
- Our Staff Recognition Event is coming up on June 22, where staff will be honoured for milestone years of service. We are very much looking forward to celebrating with staff.

In the news...

How palliative care nurses support patients and families when it matters most (May 1, 2026)



When people hear the words palliative care, many think only of the last days of life. But palliative care is so much more. It is about living well, even as life changes. Palliative care teams help manage symptoms and work closely with other healthcare providers. Palliative care consult nurse, Tracy Smith, describes her role as being a support person: “Many people feel lost when facing a serious illness, and the health system can be confusing, especially for people in rural areas where services may not be close by or for people who haven’t had much interaction with the health system.” Originally from New York, Tracy moved to Cape Sable Island where she also has a small portrait photography business she started about 10 years ago. Read more about Tracy and palliative care services online: <https://www.nshealth.ca/news-and-notice/how-palliative-care-nurses-support-patients-and-families-when-it-matters-most>

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