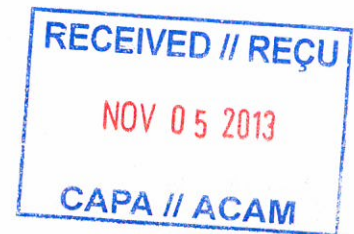




ALBERTA
HEALTH

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton-Rutherford*



AR 112731

OCT 29 2013

Mr. Tim Ralph
National President
Ms. Valoree McKay
Executive Director
Canadian Association of Physician Assistants
704, 265 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K1S 2E1

Dear Mr. Ralph and Ms. McKay:

Thank you for your letters of September 17 and 18, 2013, to Premier Redford and me regarding National Physician Assistant Day. The Premier has reviewed your comments and asked me to respond on behalf of the Government of Alberta.

The success of the health care system is largely due to the expertise and compassion of our medical professionals, and I recognize that physician assistants can enhance the capacity of our health workforce. As such, I am pleased to advise that Alberta Health Services has launched a pilot project to examine the role of physician assistants in improving access to primary care in our province. The two-year Physician Assistant Demonstration Project will see physician assistants integrated into multi-disciplinary health care teams at several facilities across Alberta.

Due to the number of requests received, our government does not formally recognize special days, weeks or months. There is, however, an opportunity for Members of the Legislative Assembly to make Members' Statements when the Legislature is in Session. If you would like to make arrangements for a statement to be read regarding National Physician Assistant Day during the Fall 2013 Legislative Session, I encourage you to contact Ms. Ashley Croden in my office at 780-427-3665.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Fred Horne
Minister of Health

cc: Honourable Alison M. Redford, QC, Premier

208 Legislature Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6 Canada Telephone 780-427-3665 Fax 780-415-0961