



## LANS Update

As we near the end of **Lymphedema Awareness Month**, we wanted to take a moment to share some exciting news from the past few weeks, along with a look ahead at the important work LANS will be doing in 2026.

### **LANS Recognized in the Nova Scotia Legislature on World Lymphedema Day**

Karen Bingham was recognized in the Nova Scotia Legislature by the Honourable Minister of Health and Wellness, Michelle Thompson, for her dedication to raising awareness, providing education, and building a community of support for people living with lymphedema in Nova Scotia.

It was a very meaningful day and an exciting milestone after so many years of advocacy. It also marks the beginning of a new partnership between LANS and the Department of Health and Wellness as we work together to help build capacity for Lymphedema care across the province.

[LANS at the Legislature](#)

### **2026 Initiatives**

We are very pleased to share that LANS has received funding for several initiatives that will be launched in 2026. From pilot studies on garment access to new educational opportunities, these projects have the potential to make a real difference in how Lymphedema is understood and managed in Nova Scotia.

Through our work with the Department of Health and Wellness, we have been given funding for the following:

### **Clinician Training**

We will be offering tuition support to 25 providers working within the Nova Scotia Health Authority to take the University of Alberta's [Lymphedema and Chronic Edema Management Microcourse](#). This self-paced course will run from May 4 to June 12 and will help begin the pathway toward developing Lymphedema specialists across all Health Districts. The process of identifying candidates is now underway.

### **Compression Garment Funding Pilot Study**

We have been allocated a one-time amount of \$20,000 to help provide funding for individuals who need compression garments. The goal of this pilot is to collect important data on need, access, and current funding limitations. We are still developing the application and review process and will share more details as soon as they are available.

### **Expert Seminar**

On November 4, we will be welcoming Dr. David Keast, MSc, MD, FCFP, and physiotherapist Marize Ibrahim, MSc PT, CLT-LANA, to Halifax to speak about why policy change is needed, the value of Lymphedema specialists within the Public Health Care System, and how specialized care can help reduce demand on urgent care and other community resources. The 25 participants in the University of Alberta course will be present, along with other community and industry partners, to learn from their insight and experience.

As these initiatives move forward, patient voices will be essential in helping guide the work and ensuring it reflects real needs. We invite you to [join us](#), stay informed, take part in upcoming studies, and help us build a stronger roadmap for Lymphedema care. We are also pleased to welcome members from New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island as we continue to raise awareness and advocate for better Lymphedema care across the Maritimes.

## **Professional Directory**

LANS is now the website listed in the Nova Scotia Health patient and family guide for Lymphedema. Starting April 1, we will also be launching a Professional Directory on our website. Therapists and fitters who have registered with LANS will have their contact

information included, and information on hospital-based care across the province will also be available.

## [Join Now](#)

Change does not happen in isolation. It happens when people come together, lend their voices, and decide to make a difference.

By joining LANS, you are helping support better education, improved access to garments, and a better quality of life for those living with Lymphedema across Nova Scotia. We would love to have you with us as part of our 2026 directory and as part of the work ahead.

Together, we can help ensure that every person living with Lymphedema in Nova Scotia has the support they deserve.

We look forward to sharing this journey with all of you.

Karen Bingham  
LANS President

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