

NEWSLETTER

Vendor Partner News

▶ February 2024



NL Health
Services

Vendor Mapping Project Update:

Advancing supply chain resiliency is a key goal for our Provincial Health Supply Chain Department. We wish to move away from the reactive sourcing of the past and instead have the ability to proactively monitor and assess factors such as geopolitical risks, unknown supply locations and unknown vendor risk management gaps. As such, our work on mapping our vendors' products - from manufacturing site to our end users - continues. We wish to thank those vendors who have been part of our mapping journey up to this point for their time and dedication and we look forward to continuing our work together.

During the course of this project, we have been introduced to the Healthcare Industry Resilience Collaborative (HIRC), an American non-profit trade association with a focus on solving for one thing – a more transparent and resilient supply chain. We are excited to announce that NLHS Health Supply Chain is the first provider in Canada to join HIRC!

HIRC and its partners have a shared purpose to increase supply chain resiliency through alignment to standards and best practice and foster a culture of collaboration. We believe that a fragmented industry approach will not reach the necessary goal of supply resiliency, but rather exacerbate existing challenges and now is the time for leading organizations to reshape the paradigm and create a more reliable supply chain for our patients and healthcare staff. In order to achieve this, it takes genuine partnership, collaboration and transparency amongst vendors, health providers and industry partners. We strongly encourage our vendors to seek more information on how to get involved with HIRC and begin adopting standards. Do you consider yourself a resilient supplier? Do you wish to demonstrate your commitment to your customer and differentiate yourself by achieving a nationally recognized badge? If so, please visit HIRC's website to learn more about their badging program.

We are proud to be a member of HIRC and look forward to our involvement in advancing their resiliency strategy here in Newfoundland and Labrador.

“Providers and Suppliers – stronger together!”



New Warehouse in Western Zone:

Our Inventory, Logistics, Technology and Transportation team at NLHS Supply Chain has been busy implementing two provincial warehouses in the province for pandemic, vaccination, and critical supplies - one in the Western Zone and the other located in the Eastern Zone.

On January 15, we began the process of transferring a portion of the Province's pandemic supply from the Eastern Zone to our new Western Zone warehouse located at 12 Tipping Place in Corner Brook. In total, 196 pallets were moved to our new 20,000 sq ft facility.

In our Eastern Zone, the warehouse is currently located at 410 Stavanger Drive, St. John's and we will be moving to our new home in East White Hills in August 2024.

Vendors are reminded to pay close attention to ship-to locations when processing purchase orders and if you have any questions, please ask your relevant Buyer.

Sustainability:

On February 5, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced two new procurement strategies aimed at maximizing the success of provincial suppliers in obtaining public sector contracts, supporting supplier development, and increasing sustainable practices in purchasing. The strategies are available for view and download here:

- [Newfoundland and Labrador First Strategy](#)
- [Sustainable Procurement Strategy](#)

The Newfoundland and Labrador First Procurement Strategy will help create an environment that provides the best opportunity for provincial suppliers to be successful in obtaining contracts, and the Sustainable Procurement Strategy is focused on embedding sustainability considerations into processes for procuring goods, services, and construction alongside traditional considerations such as price, quality, service, and technical considerations.

NLHS is also pleased to be represented at the national level by being a member of HealthPRO's Member-led Sustainability Committee. The purpose of this committee is to engage in collaborative dialogue for a purposeful exchange of information and insights regarding sustainability in healthcare procurement and the broader Canadian healthcare system.

NLHS is committed to applying a sustainable approach to our procurement activities and will continue to advance practices around sustainability in an effort to help achieve broader social, environmental and economic goals.



Vendor Engagement:

Our Vendor Management team continues to advance our Vendor Engagement Strategy, in part, by collaborating on regular cycles with more and more of our strategic vendors. The team has been performing Quarterly Reviews with several vendors with a purpose to engage more effectively with our vendor community, discuss performance, improve communication, understand the fundamentals of each vendor and how that affects NLHS, as well as build healthy relationships making it easier to be more proactive and help reduce supply chain risk. If you are a vendor that has a high level of involvement with NLHS and would like to be on the Quarterly Review list, please send an email to vendor.relations@centralhealth.nl.ca. As availability allows, you will be contacted by the Vendor Management team to help get the process started.

- Link to Merx <https://www.merx.com/govnl/nl-phsssc>
- Link to SC website <https://www.centralhealth.nl.ca/tenders>
- Link to NLHS website <https://www.centralhealth.nl.ca/tenders>

Provincial Health Supply Chain Vision

An integrated supply chain model that ensures the right products and services are available at the right place and the right time at the best price to support safe, efficient and effective health care.