This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made effective upon the date of the last signature.

## **BETWEEN**

## HIS MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF ALBERTA, AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF HEALTH ("ALBERTA HEALTH")

-and-

## THE ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (CMA ALBERTA DIVISION) ("AMA")

Historically, Alberta Health and the AMA have worked collaboratively to strengthen primary health care in Alberta. The purpose of this non-legally binding MOU is to express and confirm Alberta Health's and the AMA's deep commitment and strong desire to continue working in close partnership on improving comprehensive primary health care.

Building from the accomplishments of the Modernizing Alberta's Primary Health Care System (MAPS) initiative, Alberta Health has recently announced an intention to proceed with further work to inform changes to stabilize primary care and better support physicians who practice comprehensive primary health care. As part of that work, and in recognition of the critical role of family physicians acting as leaders and essential contributors in the comprehensive primary health care system, Alberta Health and the AMA commit to working closely together to form recommendations on the following (non-exhaustive) issues:

- Longitudinal Family Physician Practice: The design and implementation of a
  longitudinal family physician practice compensation model that reflects family physicians'
  and rural generalists' extensive training, experience, and leadership in primary health
  care, and with due consideration of the construct, concepts and components informing
  the "Longitudinal Family Practice Model" specifically proposed by the AMA. The model
  will build on existing strengths in the primary care sector and would include
  recommendations on potentially:
  - facilitating development of alternatives for family physicians currently using feefor-service with a new physician compensation model;
  - communications plans and change management supports necessary to facilitate any such transition; and
  - necessary technology enablers to support family physicians transitioning to a new physician compensation model.
- Steps to Lessen Administrative Burden: Additional short and long-term strategies and processes that Alberta Health can implement to: (1) reduce the significant administrative burden facing family physicians and rural generalists operating private businesses

through which they provide comprehensive primary care; and (2) correspondingly increase their time to provide care to patients.

- **Short-term Stabilization:** Supplementary short-term actions that Alberta Health can take to further stabilize comprehensive primary health care, including related compensation for family physicians and rural generalists.
- **Engagement:** Appropriate timing and forum for Alberta Health and the AMA to collaboratively engage other participants in the primary health care system in these, and related, discussions.
- Governance: Appropriate interface between Alberta Health and the AMA in discussions about modernized governance structures.

As Alberta Health anticipates that this collaborative work could potentially inform the Budget 2024 process, Alberta Health and the AMA will work together to begin the planning process for engaging in these discussions.

To reflect Alberta Health's and the AMA's mutual commitment to collaborate as described above, the parties have affixed their signatures below.

HIS MAJESTY IN RIGHT OF ALBERTA, AS REPRESENTED BY THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

ÁDRIANA LAGRANGE

**MINISTER** 

Date:

THE ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (C.M.A. ALBERTA DIVISION)

DR. PAUL PARKS

**PRESIDENT** 

Date