

March 15, 2017

Dr. Alan Lagimodiere  
Legislative Assistant to the Honourable Kelvin Goertzen  
Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living  
Room 227 Legislative Building  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0V8

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for agreeing to serve Manitoba as Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living.

Our party has been given a mandate to restore trust in government and improve the lives of Manitobans and their families. This is a high honour and privilege; it will be our focus every day in government.

Because of great trust that Manitobans have given us, we must each adhere to the highest standards of accountability and respect in the conduct of the province's business. Accordingly, you must comport yourself at all times with personal and professional integrity. You must also be fully aware and compliant with all ethical rules and guidelines currently established, as well as those which form part of our Open Government Initiative.

### **Most Improved Province**

Manitobans have given us a mandate to improve our province in several key areas. We must strive each day to deliver high quality public services to all citizens, at a reasonable cost. We will be judged on the results we achieve.

As Legislative Assistant to the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living, you have a key role to play in delivering on the following commitments:

- Lower ambulance fees;
- Shorter ER and priority procedure wait times;
- Improving doctor retention;
- Increasing the number of personal care home beds;
- Creating a dedicated stroke unit; and
- Devising an effective mental health strategy.

## **Your Mandate**

You will assist the Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living to fulfill the following platform commitments:

- Retaining and attracting doctors to Manitoba, by supporting the Minister in the creation of a provincial agency for doctor recruitment that is aligned with province-wide priorities related to doctor recruitment and retention.
- Developing a plan to reduce obesity and obesity related chronic diseases through evidence based strategies and initiatives.

## **Working With Manitobans and the Public Service**

Our government will be a listening government, and it will be a responsible and responsive government. Having secured the people's trust, we must work hard every day to earn it anew. As a representative of our government, you will work constructively and cooperatively with citizens and stakeholders to hear their views and communicate the decisions and priorities of the government.

Manitoba's civil service will be a key partner with us to deliver on our commitments and serve the public. Our commitment to protecting front line services for people and the jobs of those who deliver them is one we must strive to honour.

When we formed government, I reduced the size of cabinet and set a new tone in ensuring value in government services. That extends to how I expect you and your colleagues to work with your departmental officials and other civil servants you encounter in the course of your professional duties. I expect you to forge a collaborative working relationship with the civil service. I also expect you to be accessible to officials within your department, to listen to their advice, to hear their concerns, and understand that while they are here to serve in a professional non-partisan manner, they are also our employees who deserve our respect.

## **Cabinet, Caucus and the Legislature**

Being a Legislative Assistant brings responsibility with your new duties. That responsibility extends to ensuring you are fully briefed and knowledgeable about your issues and obligations when engaging with colleagues.

Manitobans expect us to work for them as a team. I know I can count on your support and commitment to do so, as you shall have my support and commitment to work with you in your new duties and responsibilities. As we work together, I will be evaluating individual and collective performance of all members of caucus as they deliver on their mandates, as well as how they support and work collaboratively with ministerial and their caucus colleagues.

We have been given a rare privilege to serve our province. I know you are as grateful for this opportunity as I am. Let us make Manitobans proud once more of their government.

Sincerely,

Original signed by Brian Pallister, Premier

Brian Pallister

c      Honourable Kelvin Goertzen, Minister of Health, Seniors and Active Living