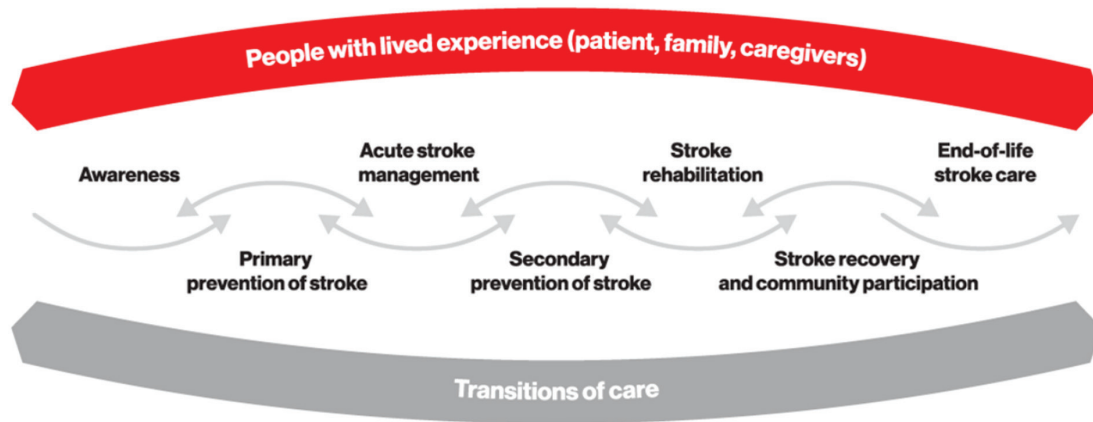


# New Brunswick Stroke Conference

## Across the Continuum and Beyond

The 2022 New Brunswick Stroke Conference: Across the Continuum and Beyond, is a part of the annual, bilingual stroke conference series hosted by the Heart and Stroke Foundation of New Brunswick (HSFNB), in partnership with Horizon and Vitalité Health Networks, and Medavie Health Services. Now in its 9th year, the NB Stroke Conference has been an integral part of the NB Stroke Strategy, and consistently brings together leading stroke experts to share knowledge and expertise in stroke best practice care. This conference aims to address all facets of the stroke continuum of care (Illustration 1), and motivate delegates to reduce its impact through the application of stroke best practice.

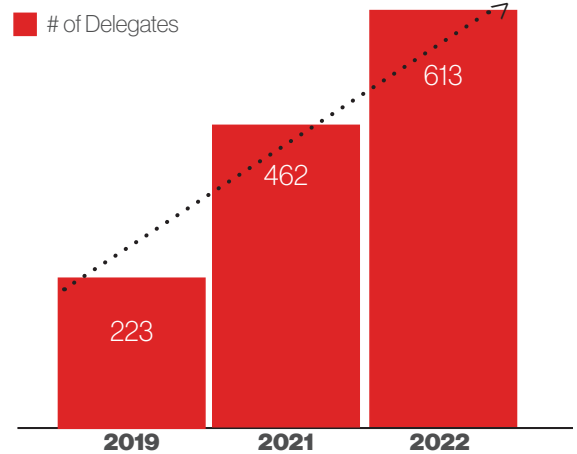
Illustration 1: Stroke Continuum of Care



### 2022 Conference Results

In 2022, the NB stroke conference experienced record breaking rates of delegate registration, with 613 individuals registering to attend. This is a 33% increase from the year before in 2021 (Graph 1). Registered delegates were employed as follows: Horizon Health Network, Vitalité Health Network, Medavie Health Services, Government, Academic Institution, or Community organizations, and others (including those attending from outside NB). We are excited to have seen this conference grow in regional and national reach.

Graph 1: Number of Delegates by Year



Plenary sessions are selected by our planning committee, made up of representatives from Horizon Health Network, Vitalité Health Network, Medavie Health Services, and the Government of New Brunswick, in order to select speakers and topics which are most relevant to New Brunswick health professionals. Our two best attended sessions in 2022 were:



**Dr. Dayna Lee-Baggley**  
*Topic:* Mental health post stroke  
 - Evidence-based strategies for all healthcare providers



**Lee-Ann Kant, SLP**  
*Topic:* Let's Talk: An Introduction to Communicating with People with Aphasia using SCA™

## Continuing Education and COVID-19

In 2021, to prevent the spread of COVID-19, HSFNB, with the support of our planning committee, made the decision to transition the Stroke Conference to a virtual format. The outcome of this decision had resoundingly positive impacts. Hearing from our delegates that an online format made the conference more accessible and easier to attend, the decision was made in 2022 to continue with a virtual format. Our evaluation shows that 76% indicated that they would like to continue to attend virtually in the future.

**76%** of delegates were only able to attend due to the virtual format of the conference

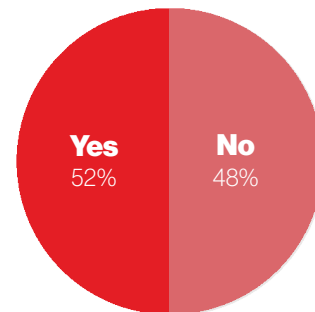
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## Additional Findings

It is important to HSFNB that these continued education opportunities be accessible to all New Brunswickers. That is why we are proud to be able to offer this learning event at no-charge to participants, with the continued support of our generous partners and sponsors. Although the NB Stroke conference met the learning needs of more than 85% of delegates, 52% of delegates indicated that their attendance at the conference was dependent on cost (Graph 2).

Further, as a provincial organization, HSFNB strives to offer all services and programs in both official languages. For this reason, in 2022 we invested in high quality translation services to ensure viewers could easily watch each session, in the language of their choice. As a result, we saw more delegates utilizing translation services this year, compared to prior conferences.

Graph 2: Delegates response - "Is your attendance dependent on registration costs?"



## Delegate Testimonies

*I am really liking the virtual format. I am so impressed with the quality of video, sound, production... this is the most impressive virtual event that I have attended.*

*This was probably the best virtual conference I attended. The transitions were seamless and great not being on Zoom. Also actually liked seeing the "commercials" between sessions- great recipes and tips! Great job overall!*

*The virtual format allowed for flexibility to schedules, and also permitted attendees to participate in a socially distanced manner during the pandemic-much appreciated!*

## Conclusion

Despite the challenges brought on throughout this pandemic, stroke care remains a priority in our province. In 2022, we set a record for the number of delegates registered -- a true testament to the dedication of health care workers and allied professional in our province. We are thankful for our partnerships with Horizon and Vitalité Health Networks which allows for this event to operate. We are excited to continue this successful event into its 9th year in 2023.