



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Easter Seals Partners with Northwood to Keep and Grow *Learn to Boccia* in Halifax During Facility Construction**



*Michael Smith, Canadian  
National Boccia Competitor and  
Northwood Resident*

**Halifax, N.S. / September 4 , 2018** – Northwood’s Shirley Burnstein Hall will be the home of the Easter Seals Nova Scotia’s Learn to Boccia Fall session while its former programming space at Saint Andrews Community Centre is under construction. The community partnership sees Easter Seals Nova Scotia providing the equipment and programming staff while Northwood provides the gym space, volunteers, and processes registration.

“The program is open to both Northwood residents and community members,” says Janet Simm, President and CEO of Northwood. “This partnership is an example of Northwood’s continued commitment to our community, which extends far beyond the walls of our buildings.”

Easter Seals is offering Learn to Boccia through TakePART, an Easter Seals program aimed at providing accessible physical activity opportunities and inclusive socialization opportunities for Nova Scotians with differing abilities

“We had a core group of 8-10 people in our Boccia Ball program, with several living at Northwood, while the program was at Saint Andrews,” says Samantha Parsons, Multi-Program Coordinator at Easter Seals Nova Scotia, “We are very excited about growing the game of boccia while teaching it to seniors and to persons with differing abilities.”

Northwood is hosting an open house aimed at giving community members a chance to try the precision ball sport. The sport is played at local, national and international levels by athletes with a wide range of abilities and is an official Paralympic Sport.

**WHAT:**           **Learn to Boccia** Open House

**WHEN:**           Wednesday, September 5, 2018  
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**WHERE:**          **Shirley Burnstein Hall**  
Northwood's Halifax Campus  
2615 Northwood Terrace  
Halifax, N.S.

#### About Northwood

Since 1962, we have led the way as Nova Scotia's most dynamic continuing care organization committed to innovation and change. We are the largest not-for-profit continuing care organization in Atlantic Canada and are recognized both here at home and across Canada as an extraordinary example of the power of social justice, but we like to call it the power of love! When life changes, and society changes, Northwood leads the way, incorporating revolutionary designed, responsive care. From new ideas to new technologies, we are empowered to do this, because our focus is on people, not on profit margins.

#### About Easter Seals Nova Scotia

For over 80 years, Easter Seals Nova Scotia has been a primary destination for those seeking support, mobility equipment, recreational programs, fully accessible camp experiences, assistive devices and skills development opportunities for persons living with disabilities. Our programs such as Camp Tidnish and the Wheelchair Recycling Program are delivered throughout the province.

For further information please contact:

Stephanie McDougall  
Communications Assistant  
Northwood  
902.225.1933  
[smcdougall@nwood.ns.ca](mailto:smcdougall@nwood.ns.ca)

Samantha Parsons  
Multi-Program Coordinator  
Easter Seals Nova Scotia  
902.453.6000 x 230  
[samparsons@easterseals.ns.ca](mailto:samparsons@easterseals.ns.ca)