



REGISTERED NURSES ASSOCIATION  
OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES AND NUNAVUT

# CONNECTIONS

*Fall 2020*

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*Fall 2020*

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RNANT/NU is both a regulatory body and a professional association. Our mission is to promote and ensure competent nursing for the people of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



I truly hope this message finds you well. I was out today, shopping, watching the clerks unpack the Christmas items and listening to the Christmas music in the background. I'm reminded this is our last newsletter of 2020 and I am now wondering what the Christmas and the new year will bring. I am hoping that it brings all of us, peace, health, and comfort.

You might be interested to know what is happening in the RNANTNU office. We continue to move forward on the initiative of welcoming the LPNs and RPNs to the register, and thank those who contributed to the NT discussion paper. We

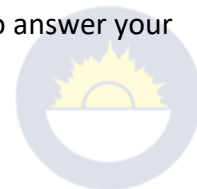
are in the midst of renewal and the process appears to be seamless for the majority of members. Of course, there are always hiccups, and if you are experiencing any difficulty, please give us a call and give us feedback as we are looking for areas of improvement. In the new year we will be moving the continuing competence program (CCP) online. Please check our website and your email in the coming months for more information on the changes to CCP. As ED, I am an ex-officio member on the NT Joint Territorial Nursing Council, the [NT Nursing Strategy Working Group](#), the NT Nursing Professions Act Amendment Working Group and have recently been asked to attend the NU Senior leadership monthly meetings. I attend the Canadian Nurses Association Long Term Care Advocacy meetings. I'm a member of the Canadian Nurses Regulatory Steering Committee and Council, a relatively new group that brings together the national regulators of NPs, RNs, LPNs and RPNs. This group is working on a language proficiency project that will make recommendation on the harmonization of language requirements for nursing licensure in Canada. We have also begun conversations with the Yukon Registered Nurses Association looking for areas of common interest and advocacy for northern nurses.

Nationally, the Canadian regulators NP project will develop a national principle-based approach to national NP regulation over the next five years. You can find more information on this project later in the newsletter. This group continues to examine how virtual care is affecting regulation and ways in which we can reduce barriers for those working nationally using virtual care platforms.

As we move into the second wave of COVID in Canada, RNANTNU will continue to keep our website up to date on any new information on social media and our website, and to answer your questions on nursing practice during the pandemic. We understand that both governments continue to provide healthcare employees with constant and timely information as well. Our most frequently asked questions about nursing practice in a pandemic center around deployment to different practice areas, PPE shortages and refusal to work due to safety issues. On our COVID page we have a FAQ section and pull the best practice advice available from the Canadian Nurse Protective Society, the Canadian Nurses Association and other reliable sources to answer your questions.

As always, we would like to hear from you, we value your feedback.

Denise Bowen MN, RN



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



In the past few weeks there has been some “chatter” on social media focusing on violence in the work place. As nurses we all have similar stories. Violence occurs in all domains of nursing. The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) and the Canadian Federation of Nurses Union (CFNU) have identified a fundamental principle in position statements: **there must be zero tolerance of any act of violence.**

Research has shown that health care professionals are at the highest risk for being attacked at work, nurses are frequently the victims. In the north, many nurses work alone, especially during the “on call” after-hours. I encourage you to not be afraid to trust your instincts. If at any time you don’t feel safe, it may be best to remove yourself. Report any incident of violence to the employer. Assess your work environment. Pay attention to the warning signs: take all threats seriously. Wherever possible, use the “buddy-system”. You have the right to refuse unsafe work.

It seems like such a long time ago that we welcomed 2020, celebrating *The Year of the Nurse*. Now we are counting down the weeks to Christmas; wondering if the COVID restrictions might be lifted in such a way to allow us to spend time with family and friends. Could we have ever anticipated that 2020 would bring forth the challenges that we have all faced? Some days I find myself wondering if things will ever return to “normal”.

As I reflect on this past year, there is no doubt, nurses are resilient. There is an ongoing demand for nurses throughout Canada but most certainly in the north. Excessive workloads, ongoing violence, and bullying are just a few of the realities that are leading to workplace adversity. In the face of a pandemic, nurses are meeting the challenge with compassion and courage. It is through the professionalism and dedication of nurses that we are able to provide exceptional care to the people we serve and therefore, maintain the honour of being a profession-led regulatory body. As we celebrate the end 2020, let us hope that 2021 will bring us peace and happiness ... and an end to the threat of COVID-19.

All the best!

Jennifer, RN



# Joint Territorial Nursing Committee

Did you know there is a Territorial Committee that is providing leadership and strategic direction to the Health and Social Services System on matters that impact nurses in the NWT? Under the guidance of Chief Nursing Officer Jo-Anne Cecchetto, NP, the Department of Health and Social Services' Joint Territorial Nursing Committee (JTNC) is comprised of nursing stakeholders from all Health Authorities, Aurora College and the Registered Nursing Association of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. One of the main projects of the JTNC is to develop an NWT Nursing Strategy that can support and develop all current and newly graduated nurses in the Territory by defining the direction of the nursing profession in the Territory and identifying strategic pillars that support nursing priorities and goals. We cannot achieve this without the support and the voice of our NWT nurses across the System!

We want to engage NWT nurses across the Territory (NPs, RNs, RPNs, LPNs) working in a variety of nursing roles, to sit on a NWT Nursing Strategy Sub Committee dedicated to developing a meaningful and impactful NWT Nursing Strategy. If you are a nurse that feels passionate about the future direction of nursing in the NWT and are willing to engage in developing goals and priorities that are unique to our Territory, we want to hear from you!

On the Sub Committee you would lend your voice to priority topics such as:

- Cultural safety to fight systemic racism;
- strengthening the indigenous nurse work force;
- strengthening the nurse/client relationship;
- reducing nurse burn out through leadership supports;
- supporting new graduates; and
- building strong retention and recruitment strategies.

As a nurse, you play an integral part in the health care system by providing competent, culturally safe and quality care to NWT clients. By participating in the NWT Nursing Strategy Sub Committee, you would be able to continue this professional commitment as well as gain valuable experience of sitting on a Territorial Committee committed to the continued growth of the nursing profession. Your voice matters and we want to hear from you!

If this sounds like work you would like to be a part of, please email [nursing@gov.nt.ca](mailto:nursing@gov.nt.ca) for more information on how to join the NWT Nursing Strategy Sub Committee.

Stay tuned because we are committed to reaching out via the RNANTNU newsletter to give updates on this exciting project.



# Chief Public Health Officer of Canada's Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2020

The annual report of the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada (CPHO) provides an opportunity to examine the state of public health in Canada and to stimulate dialogue about issues critical to the health of Canadians.

This year's annual report describes the heavy toll that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on Canadian society, both directly and through the steps taken to mitigate its effect. Through this challenging time, there has been incredible collaboration across sectors and between individuals, community organizations, businesses, governments and scientists. The aim of this report is to suggest opportunities to build on this collaboration to strengthen our nation's preparedness for future public health emergencies. In doing so, we can build a stronger society for all Canadians

[Read the report here.](#)



2021 NATIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM

CANADIAN COLLEGE OF HEALTH LEADERS / COLLÈGE CANADIEN DES LEADERS EN SANTÉ

NOMINATE



## Recognize and promote your outstanding leaders and programs

### CCHL – National Awards Program

The Canadian College of Health Leaders is inviting nominations for the [2021 National Awards Program](#). This is a great opportunity to recognize and promote the outstanding leaders and programs in your organization.

Award recipients will be recognized during the College's 2021 Honouring Health Leadership event. The date and format of this celebration will be announced later this year.

[Read More](#)





## Online Renewal Instructions

### What do I need to have ready before I start the online renewal process?

- Email and password information to login.
- Practice hours for the current year.
- Current employer information.
- Completion of your CCP learning plan.
- Current address and phone number.
- Registration information for all jurisdictions you have ever been, and currently are, registered with.
- Ensure that you have downloaded/printed a copy of your 2020 registration card and receipt for your records. Once you renew your 2021 registration, your 2020 registration card will not be available.
- Payment information. Credit card or employer pay option.
  - The employer pay renewal option is in effect October 15 – November 20.

### What steps are involved to renew online?

- Login to the member login at [www.rnantnu.ca](http://www.rnantnu.ca)
- Enter your email address and password.
  - You can reset your password here if needed. You can also call our office to confirm your email address.
- Click on the button 'Renew'.
- Proceed through the application pages and update information as needed. If your education or employment details have changed within the previous year, you can modify end dates and/or add new information. All other changes can only be conducted by RNANT/NU. If you see an error in your information or you make an error in the information you submit, contact the Registration Coordinator ([info@rnantnu.ca](mailto:info@rnantnu.ca)).
- Pay your registration fees.

The following employers are participating in the employer pay option:

NTHSSA – Beaufort Delta	NTHSSA -Dehcho
NTHSSA – Fort Smith	NTHSSA – Sahtu
NTHSSA – Stanton Territorial Hospital	NT – TCSA (Th@ho)
NTHSSA – Territorial	NTHSSA – Yellowknife Region
Hay River HSS	Avens – A Community for Seniors
NT – Aurora College	NT – Department of Health
NT – Department of Justice	

### What if I have questions or need additional help?

Please call us at (867) 873-2745 or email [info@rnantnu.ca](mailto:info@rnantnu.ca)



# RENEWAL



## 1. How does RNANT/NU contact me about renewal?

Information will be available on our website and social media. All members will receive a reminder email when renewal opens.

## 2. What if I have changed my email address?

You can update your email address in the members portal. An email address that you check frequently is preferred as updates and information are provided by email. We do not recommend using your work email address as some email may be blocked by the employer.

## 3. When and where do I renew?

On October 15, 2020, applications for renewal will be available in your portal (<https://portal.rnantnu.ca/webs/rnantnu/>) and renewal applications are due by November 30, 2020. Applications received after December 15, 2020 will be subject to a \$100 late fee. If you require a copy of your 2020 membership card or invoice you must download it before October 14. It will not be available after October 14, 2020.

## 4. When will I find out if my registration has been approved?

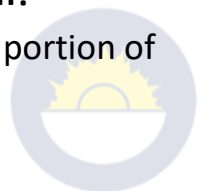
Upon submission of your completed renewal application, you will receive an email indicating your application is under review. When the application has been approved you will receive a second email indicating that your registration is approved for the 2021 registration year (January 1 – December 31, 2021). To complete your registration, pay your registration fees via your portal. Once payment is received, your account will automatically update with your membership card and receipt.

## 5. How can I check the status of my registration after I have renewed?

Use Find a Nurse (<https://portal.rnantnu.ca/webs/rnantnu/>) or sign into your account for status updates. Please notify us immediately if there are any issues.

## 6. I already paid a CNA fee with another jurisdiction. Why do I have to pay again?

RNANT/NU remits payments for all members to CNA and does not refund this portion of your renewal fees.





# RENEWAL



## 7. What happens if I do not renew?

All members must renew their licences within the renewal period. Should you not wish to hold an active RNANT/NU registration, you may choose an associate non-practicing registration. You may also choose not to renew. If you do not renew your 2020 registration before December 31, 2020 and wish to practice in 2021 you will be required to complete the RN or NP Reinstatement Application.

## 8. What is the process for employer paid renewals?

Employer paid renewal is from October 15 – November 20, 2020. The payment page of the renewal application has a drop-down menu listing employers. If your employer is on the list you may choose for your registration fees to be invoiced to your employer or make the payment yourself. If your employer is not on the list, you must complete the payment portion with a valid Visa or MasterCard.

## 9. I am missing hours and do not meet the RN requirements of 1125 in 5 years and for NPs 1125 in 4 years. What do I do?

Please refer to [Policy R9: Practice hours for Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners](#). If you are in a non-traditional nursing role you can complete the [Assessment of Nursing Practice Hours](#) package on our website

## 10. I am a new RN or NP; do I have to complete the Continuing Competence Program (CCP)?

Yes, all members are required to complete a CCP for each registration year (January 1 – December 31). Each January 10% of members are audited and required to submit their CCP. More information about the program is available on our website [here \(https://www.rnantnu.ca/rn-information/continuing-competence/\)](https://www.rnantnu.ca/rn-information/continuing-competence/).



# RENEWAL



## **11. What if I have an active registration but I'm on leave from work (maternity, disability, etc.). Do I have to complete the CCP?**

Yes, all members are required to complete a CCP each year. The expectation is that you will remain current in your area of practice.

## **12. What are the payment options?**

Payment options include Visa, MasterCard, and money order. See #8 for information on direct billing to employers .

## **13. How do I get a copy of my receipt and registration?**

Receipts and registration cards can be printed from the members portal.

### **We're here to help.**



If you require assistance with setting up your profile, navigating the renewal process, or paying for your renewal please email [info@rnanntnu.ca](mailto:info@rnanntnu.ca) or call 867-873-2745 ext. 21.

For questions about CCPs or practice hours email [registrar@rnanntnu.ca](mailto:registrar@rnanntnu.ca) or call 867-873-2745 ext. 22.



Not sure where to start? Speak to a Program Navigator: 1-866-585-0445

# Struggling With Your Mental Health And/Or Substance Use?

Wellness Together Canada is here to support you on your well-being journey.

## Take the first step

### STEP 1

#### ⚙️ Create an Account

Track your well-being

### STEP 2

#### ⚙️ Complete Self-Assessment

Choose resources that fit your needs

### STEP 2

#### ⚙️ Resources Available

- \*Self-directed Resources
- \*Group Coaching
- \*Community of Support
- \*Counselling

## Not ready for a tailored support?

No problem!

Get direct access to educational resources, e-courses, free text support, and free counselling with a mental health professional.

WELLNESS TOGETHER

Canada

Mental Health and Substance Use Support

Wellness together Canada is a partnership among Stepped Care Solutions, Kids Help Phone, & Homewood ealth. WTC is funded by Health Canada and was created as a response to the mental health needs of Canadians in the wake of COVID-19.

[wellnesstogether.ca](https://wellnesstogether.ca)

CNPS has a newly designed website and several article on COVID related nursing legal considerations, including this article:

## Twelve Things to Consider Before Joining a Virtual Care Practice

Health-care professionals across the provinces and territories are united in their efforts to provide Canadians infected with COVID-19 with safe, accessible, and timely medical attention. At the same time, Canadians continue to require the advice of health-care professionals to meet their day-to-day medical needs. Virtual care technologies (such as videoconferencing, virtual care apps messaging apps, telephone advice, etc.) can play an important role in the current pandemic by keeping patients with non-urgent medical needs away from higher risk areas while also complying with requirements for social distancing.

To this end, there may be an influx of new “virtual care” roles, and an increase in virtual care adoption across the health sector. For example, community health clinics or private primary care clinics, upon the advice of government and public health officials, may have transferred to a virtual care model to address non-urgent medical needs. Other commercial organizations may also invite primary care providers such as nurse practitioners to enter into arrangements to provide virtual care using the organization’s proprietary software. There are, however, important legal considerations to take into account before entering into practice in a virtual care setting.

To read the full the article click [here](#) or visit <https://cnps.ca/article/twelve-things-to-consider-before-joining-a-virtual-care-practice/>

## CNPS Webinars

For the month of November, CNPS will be offering a live virtual panel discussion to respond to some of our most received COVID-19 questions. Three members of CNPS legal counsel will respond to your questions about some of the legal considerations and obligations of nurses during COVID-19.

Recorded replays are available:  
November 19: 7:00pm-8:00pm ET  
November 25: 12:00pm-1:00pm ET

[More information available here](#)



## **The RNANT/NU website is a valuable source of information.**

### **Registration FAQ**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/rn-information/registration-faq/>

Here you will find the most common questions new applicants ask during the registration process.

### **Nurse Practitioner FAQ**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/np-information/faq/>

Here you will find the most common questions Nurse Practitioners ask about their Scope of Practice.

### **Renewal Information**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/rn-information/renewal/>

### **Professional Development**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/professional-practice/professional-development/education/>

Please visit our redesigned educational opportunities section. Here you will find Conferences, Education, and Webinars. If you know about an event, submit it to [execast@rnantnu.ca](mailto:execast@rnantnu.ca)

### **Professional Practice Documents**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/professional-practice/>

Position statements, Scope and Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics and more!

### **Employer & Agency Information**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/employer-and-agency-information/>

This section will help guide employers on topics such as telehealth, .

### **Hiring a new employee?**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/employer-and-agency-information/hiring-new-employees/>

Available in this section are checklists, required documents for applicants, policies, instructions and fee schedules.

### **About Us**

<https://www.rnantnu.ca/about/>

Information on the Board of Directors, COVID-19 resources, Volunteering, Bylaws, Policies, News, Newsletters, Documents and Advocacy.





Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) Nursing Website:

- **Virtual Simulation Games**
- **Educational Resources**
- **Self Assessments**



*Welcome to the  
New SOGI Website*

**soginursing.ca**



*Helping nurses, nursing students, and healthcare professionals to use cultural humility to meet the unique healthcare needs of LGBTQI2S people.*



@soginursing



Funded by CIHR



## Innovative virtual platform underway to support new nurses' transition into the profession

The Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) and the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) have come together to help create a network of information and social connection for future and newly graduated licensed practical nurses, registered practical nurses, registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses transitioning into professional practice roles for the first time.

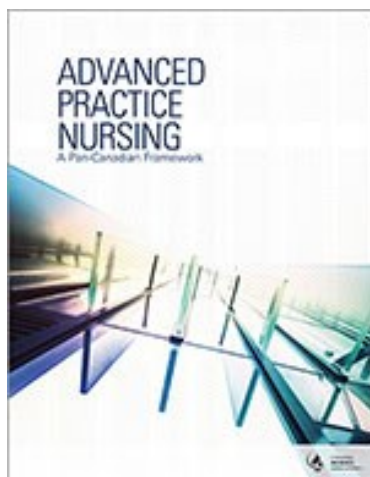


[With a generous grant from CNF](#) and with administrative support from CNA, Judy Duchscher (MN, PhD) has been able to bring together a national team of students, new graduates and expert nurses to develop [Nursing The Future](#), a virtual platform of support for newly graduated nurses.

The platform will offer:

- A network of information and social connection for new nurses moving into professional practice for the first time.
- A way to share the latest educational preparation advances, research and workplace innovation related to professional role transition. This will assist health-care educators, administrators and experienced nurses seeking to support the newest members of the profession.
- A source of information on contemporary nursing issues, professional leadership and workplace culture that will help us understand and optimize the nursing workforce.

[Read the media release](#) for more details.



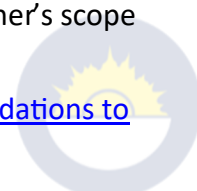
## One more federal barrier removal recognizing the nurse practitioner role

Food and Drug Regulations will include Nurse Practitioners as a "practitioner" to whom drug samples may be distributed to. This came into effect on July 1, 2020 as part of regulatory amendments made in Bill C-4 (the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement Implementation Act).

[This Act amended section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act](#) (i.e.: the prohibition on the distribution of drugs as samples), to permit the distribution of drugs as samples to a "practitioner". "Practitioner" is now defined in the FDRs, referring to a person who is entitled under the laws of a province or territory to treat patients with a prescription drug. These changes permit distribution of drugs as samples to clients, as a matter falling within the nurse practitioner's scope

of practice.

CNA has long advocated for this change, having proposed it in 2018 as one of [three recommendations to the advisory council on the implementation of national pharmacare](#).



## CNA Member Benefits

CNA has negotiated preferred rates for CNA members with various businesses and service providers. [See the full list of affinity program partners](#) and how you can take advantage of hundreds of dollars in savings!

- Significant savings on the fees for the CNA Certification Program (more than \$150 for nurses who are part of CNA)
- Member rates for the diverse lineup of continuing professional development courses available on the CNA Learning Centre
- [25% off the](#) Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses
- CNA has negotiated preferred rates for CNA members with various businesses and service providers. See the [full list of our affinity program partners](#) and how you can take advantage of hundreds of dollars in savings!
- Member rates for the diverse lineup of continuing professional development courses available on the CNA Learning Centre

## CNA helps you achieve your goals

CNA offers:

- The [CNA Certification Program](#), Canada's only national nursing certification. Various certification exams are specifically available to registered nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, registered practical nurses and registered psychiatric nurses (with savings of more than \$150 for nurses who are a part of CNA)
- Opportunity to further develop your leadership and management skills by becoming a member of the [Canadian Academy of Nursing](#). Academy members also have the opportunity to make a submission to the [Fellowship program](#)
- Connection to the [Canadian Network of Nursing Specialties](#)
- Progress in Practice webinars on topical issues affecting nursing today
- Leadership development opportunities, including the Dorothy Wylie Health Leaders Institute

Learn more at

<https://cna-aiic.ca/en/membership/>





# 2021 CNA CERTIFICATION COMMIT TO EXCELLENCE



The **CNA Certification Program** offers the only bilingual, nationally recognized nursing specialty credential. Being CNA certified shows that you're committed to an advanced standard of professional competence and have a comprehensive understanding of your nursing specialty.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### SPRING 2021

**January 14 – March 8**

Application window to **write or renew by exam**

**May 1-15**

Certification **exam window**

### FALL 2021

**June 1 – September 1**

Application window to **write or renew by exam**

**November 1 – 15**

Certification **exam window**

### YEAR ROUND

**January 14 – November 1**

Application window to **renew by continuous learning**

## CURRENT SPECIALTIES

CARDIOVASCULAR

COMMUNITY HEALTH

CRITICAL CARE

CRITICAL CARE PEDIATRICS

EMERGENCY

GERONTOLOGY — for registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses

GERONTOLOGY — for licensed/registered practical nurses

HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE

MEDICAL-SURGICAL — for registered nurses

MEDICAL-SURGICAL — for licensed/registered practical nurses

NEONATAL

NEPHROLOGY

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

ONCOLOGY

PEDIATRICS

PERINATAL

PERIOPERATIVE

PSYCHIATRIC AND MENTAL HEALTH — for registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses

WOUND, OSTOMY AND CONTINENCE

## RENEWAL BY CONTINUOUS LEARNING ONLY

GASTROENTEROLOGY

NEUROSCIENCE

ORTHOPAEDIC

PERIANESTHESIA

REHABILITATION

*Since 2019, exams to obtain or renew a certification in any of these specialties are no longer offered. Certified nurses can renew by submitting CL hours.*



getcertified.cna-aiic.ca  
1-800-361-8404 • certification@cna-aiic.ca

Care to Be  
the Best.

# CANADIAN NURSE™

Canadian Nurse is an innovative online magazine providing practical information to support professional nursing practice, in all domains of nursing. This online magazine provides the nursing community with a platform to share ideas, strategies, and innovations across this country.

The focus of Canadian Nurse is best practices, analysis, opinions, profiles, research summaries, advice from experts and insights into all aspects of the profession. Canadian Nurse welcomes your feedback, ideas and article submissions. Remember to check the website regularly as new content, articles and information are updated regularly.

The Canadian Nurse editorial team is led by editor-in-chief Barb Shellian, past president of CNA and a highly respected nurse leader who has extensive expertise in nursing practice and policy development. She is supported by an [editorial advisory board](#) composed of nurses from across Canada who represent the full scope of nursing practice.

**[To review all published articles, click here](#)**



## NP Regulation Framework Implementation Plan Project (NPR-FIPP)

The Nurse Practitioner Regulation Framework Implementation Plan Project (NPR-FIPP) is a multi-year, multi-faceted initiative commissioned by the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNR). The NPR-FIPP builds on previous work with a goal to implement the recommendations endorsed by CCRNR regarding six basic elements of a Model for Nurse Practitioner Regulation in Canada.

The most recent newsletter is available [here](#)

Subscribe to the NPR-FIPP newsletter [here](#)

# A New Chapter: Oncology Nurses of the Northwest Territories

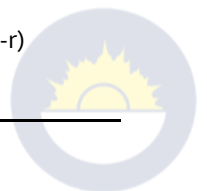
The Northwest Territories (NT) is proud to be the newest member of the Canadian Association of Nurses in Oncology (CANO)! Now named *Oncology Nurses of the Northwest Territories* (ONNT) – our cancer care chapter covers the NT and the Kitikmeot region of Nunavut, an approximate land mass of nearly two million square km.

While our region has limited services and no local Oncologists, we believe all Canadians deserve access to excellent oncology nursing care and provide a vital role in cancer care by providing cancer navigation services, chemotherapy, and limited general surgery. The majority of our patients go to Edmonton, Alberta, where we are partnered with their Cross Cancer Institute through CancerControl Alberta. While ONNT is presently represented by only a few members, we are now working on recruiting other cancer navigators and chemotherapy nurses so they can benefit from our local chapter services. Opening our own chapter allows us to tailor education needs to the specific needs of northern nurses. Moving forward, we hope to have a (physically distant) get together for the CANO conference in November to support our peers who take the opportunity to participate virtually in additional education. We look forward to being part of CANO's mission to promote and develop excellence in oncology nursing practice, education, research and leadership. Now the real fun beings!

**Catherine Dixon, RN, BSN, CON(C)**  
Territorial Specialist – Cancer Care



ONNT Executive: Catherine Dixon, Julie Jones, and June Bartlett (l-r)



# PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECISIONS

## **RNANT/NU Member #6688**

On September 3, 2020, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. The Member posted a video, made by a nursing colleague to the Member's Tik Tok account. The video illustrated the nursing colleague out for a walk, in the community, with a pair of scissors in her hand to protect herself. The audio states, "if anyone tries to touch me, I will stab em." Someone from the public accessed the Member's Tik Tok page, took a clip of the video, and posted it on the community's Public Service Announcements Facebook page. The video clearly identified the two individuals involved as nurses. The Member entered Alternate Dispute Resolution. The Member will complete the Responsible Nursing self – study course at McEwan University. The Member will write letters of apology to the Executive Director and the Director of Clinical services at the hospital where the Member is employed.

## **RNANT/NU Member #7120**

On September 3, 2020, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. The Member made a video while the Member was out for a walk, in the community, carrying a pair of scissors in her hand to protect herself. The audio states, "if anyone tries to touch me, I will stab em." The Member shared this video with a nursing colleague and gave permission to post the video on the nursing colleague's Tik Tok page. Someone from the public accessed the Tik Tok page, took a clip of the video, and posted it on the community's Public Service Announcements Facebook page. The Tik Tok page clearly identified the two individuals involved as nurses. The Member entered Alternate Dispute Resolution. The Member

will complete the Responsible Nursing self – study course at McEwan University. The Member will write letters of apology to the Executive Director and the Director of Clinical services at the hospital where the Member is employed.

## **RNANT/NU Member #5956**

On July 30, 2020, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. The Member provided information regarding COVID – 19 to clients and employees that was not based on best practices and was not validated by DHSS, NTHSSA, PHAC and the WHO causing confusion and concern for the staff at the facility. The Member provided brewed rat root tea and sage for the workers and clients at the facility without knowing the health histories of the clients or the staff. The Member, during an interdisciplinary meeting, falsely and intentionally identified herself as a community health nurse with the knowledge, skills and abilities to practice in an expanded role. The Member entered Alternate Dispute Resolution. The Member will complete the Responsible Nursing self – study course at McEwan University. The Member will write a scholarly self – reflection paper regarding cultural sensitivity and the nurse's responsible use of traditional medicines.

## **RNANT/NU Member #6446**

On August 14, 2019, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. The Member, while caring for a critically ill

*Continues on next page*

# PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECISIONS

thirteen-month-old child, failed to recognize the seriousness of the child's respiratory rate of 65 – 86 per minute and did not administer nebulized medication as ordered. The Member failed to document on the flow sheet, the vital signs sheet and the systems assessment record for the one on one care being provided. The Member failed to collaborate, cooperate and follow the advice for the care of the child given by two more experienced pediatric nurses when they expressed concern over the child's respiratory rate and increased work on breathing, suggesting administration of the nebulized medication. The Member attempted to administer an undiluted antibiotic medication concurrently with the

primary IV line of D5NS, ignoring the advice of a more experienced pediatric nurse that the drug needed to be diluted. The Member failed to check the unit's drug guides for safe administration procedures and the minimum time frame to administer the medication. The Member failed to document the administration of the IV medication. The Member entered Alternate Dispute Resolution. The Member completed the Documentation in Nursing self – study course, the Responsible Nursing self – study course, the Pediatric Nursing self – study course and the Essentials of Pediatric Emergencies self – study course McEwan University.



The Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) publishes best practice guidelines for client care in the areas of chronic disease, addictions and mental health, women and children, elder care and sustaining health work environments. There are currently 50 published guidelines as well as a toolkit and educator's resource to support implementation. Many of these publications are available in French, among other languages and we continue to translate materials on an ongoing basis, in French, Chinese, Japanese, Norwegian, Italian, German and Spanish. If you are looking to find what is best practice in your area of specialization -visit RNAO <https://rnao.ca/bpg>



# TELEHEALTH FAQ

RNANT/NU has seen an increase in phone calls about Telehealth services being offered to residents of the Northwest Territories (NT) and Nunavut (NU). Telehealth connects residents with health care providers over the phone, computer, or other forms of communication technologies. This service, if provided by a Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner, requires the individual to be registered with RNANT/NU and hold an active registration.

## **Do I need to be registered with RNANT/NU?**

As per the Nursing Professions Act in NT and NU all individuals providing nursing services to the residents of NT/NU must hold active registration. Please refer to our website to review the legislation.

## **Can I just use my current registration with another Canadian jurisdiction?**

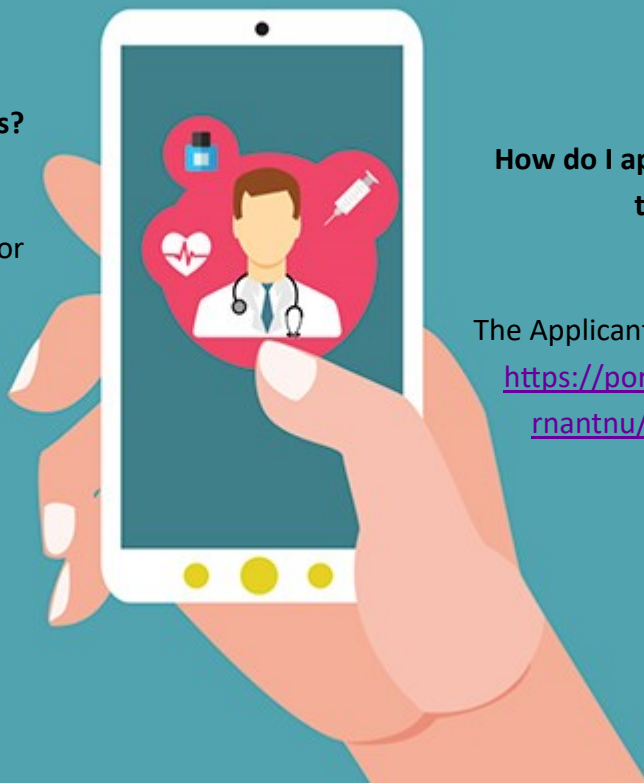
Each province/territory is governed by different legislation/bylaws/policies and regulations. You will need to contact the nursing regulator in the jurisdiction you are providing telehealth services in to see if they allow you to provide these services in their province/territory. Registration with RNANT/NU is required for telehealth services in the NT and/or NU.

## **Who do I contact if I have questions?**

You can contact our office by email or phone:

info@rnantnu.ca

or by phone 867-873-2745.



## **How do I apply for registration in the NT/NU?**

The Applicant portal is available here <https://portal.rnantnu.ca/webs/rnantnu/application/#/login>

## Evidence on COVID-19:

### Finding Credible Information in an Evolving Situation

The internet is a popular resource for Canadians looking for health information. During the COVID-19 pandemic, this is no less so. However, the risks of encountering incorrect information about COVID-19 may be greater. Because it's a new disease, we know less about it than we do about other illnesses. And in this information void, misinformation can thrive.

Health misinformation spreads quickly on the internet, and so can its negative consequences. Stories about unproven COVID-19 treatments can lead people to misuse drugs and other therapies, inadvertently harming themselves or others. False narratives about the pandemic, such as conspiracy theories, can cause undue panic. And because misinformation is often presented in uniquely persuasive ways, it can erode people's trust in the credible sources of information it contradicts.

#### WHERE TO FIND CREDIBLE INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19 ON THE INTERNET

There are several reliable websites where you can find credible health information. One is the CADTH COVID-19 web portal — [covid.cadth.ca](https://covid.cadth.ca). CADTH is an independent, evidence-based agency that finds, assesses, and summarizes the research on drugs, medical devices, and procedures. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, CADTH launched this web portal to provide access to trustworthy information about COVID-19. Here you can find a growing number of freely accessible CADTH evidence reviews as well as web-based resources from other trusted organizations.

CADTH recently posted the following reports on COVID-19, and these are just a few highlights from the web portal. Please note that any key findings presented here are accurate at the time of writing this article. The information on the site is being updated daily to reflect the rapidly changing and growing state of the international scientific evidence related to COVID-19:

- a briefing note on the use of [contact tracing apps as a public health tool to contain the spread of COVID-19](#).

#### HOW TO ASSESS OTHER WEB-BASED INFORMATION THAT YOU FIND

Even if you get your COVID-19-related information only from trustworthy websites, it's nearly impossible to avoid coming across content from questionable sources. There are many false or misleading claims online that, for example, certain herbal remedies, vitamins, household products, or medicines can cure or protect against COVID-19. Whether you are finding information yourself or it's being shared with you by a family member, a colleague, or a patient, there are things you can look for to assess the credibility of the content.

A few years ago, CADTH developed its [Evaluating the Credibility of Health Websites: Can You Trust Dr. Google?](#) [Google?](#) [handout](#). This handout provides tips and resources to help anyone critically appraise health information they find on the internet. It includes a list of criteria to look for as well as red flags that could indicate a website is providing unreliable information. It was developed for a broad audience — all health care decision-makers — from members of the public to clinicians. So, it might be useful to health care providers who are having discussions with patients about COVID-19 information found on the internet.

# CADTH Evidence Driven.

In June 2020, CADTH delivered a webinar titled [Surviving the COVID-19 Infodemic — Can You Trust Dr. Google?](#) During the webinar, Timothy Caulfield — a Canada Research Chair in health law and policy, a professor in the Faculty of Law and the School of Public Health, and a research director of the Health Law Institute at the University of Alberta — described the flood of unreliable information related to COVID-19 being generated and the work underway to curtail the spread of misinformation. The webinar also provided an in-depth look at the “Can Your Trust Dr. Google” handout. A video recording of the webinar has been posted on the [CADTH YouTube channel](#).

*CADTH is committed to providing Canada’s health care decision-makers with reliable information during this challenging and uncertain time. Subscribe to the CADTH e-alert system — at [cadth.ca/subscribe](#) — to receive the CADTH Weekly COVID-19 Update, which lists the latest content that’s been posted on the CADTH COVID-19 web portal. All the documents posted on the portal, including those referred to in this article, are freely available.*

*Publicly funded organizations responsible for health service delivery, clinical society stakeholders, and Canada’s ministries and departments of health can ask CADTH for a review of new COVID-19-related evidence by submitting a request at [covid.cadth.ca/submit-a-request](#). If you’d like to learn more about CADTH, visit [cadth.ca](#) to learn more, follow us on Twitter @CADTH\_ACMTS, or contact your CADTH Northern Team ([territories@cadth.ca](mailto:territories@cadth.ca)).*



The Canadian Nurses Foundation provides scholarships for nursing students across Canada at the baccalaureate, masters and PhD levels. These scholarships are awarded based on merit and range from \$750 to \$10,000

Applications are open November to February.

Learn more at

<https://cnf-fic.ca/scholarship-program/>





# ETHNIC MINORITY NURSES & UNREGULATED CARE PROVIDERS' (UCP) EXPERIENCES OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

## STUDY RECRUITMENT

We would like to invite ethnic minority nurses & UCPs to participate in a one-time online survey. Participants will be eligible to win a \$150 gift card.

**PURPOSE:** The objective of the study is to explore ethnic minority nurses and UCPs' experiences with stigma and discrimination while serving on the frontlines against the pandemic while also fighting stereotypes and stigma.

## TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Member of a visible minority group (e.g. South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean, Japanese)
- Employed as an RN or UCP (e.g., personal support worker, physician assistant, patient care aide, nursing attendant, etc.)
- Currently working in Canada

## SURVEY LINK:

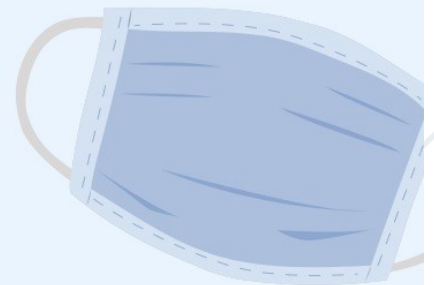
<https://redcap.hs.asu.edu/redcap/surveys/?s=KEY79N39EX>

## CONTACT:

Dr. Charlotte Lee, Assistant Professor  
lee.charlotte@ryerson.ca  
(416) 979-5000 ext. 557992



This study has been reviewed and approved by the Ryerson University Research Ethics Board (2020-343) and Arizona State University Research Ethics Board (STUDY00011817).



# From the Archives

We thought you might like to know what NWTRNA was doing in February 1979.

## AWARD PRESENTED



The COMMISSIONER'S AWARD for public service rendered in the field of health was presented to Barbara Bromley at the opening session of Territorial Council, on January 19, 1979. A longtime resident of Yellowknife, Barb has been active in furthering the image of nursing in the north and in the development of the professional association. She is past president of the N.W.T.R.N.A., and until June 1978 was Director of Co-ordinated Home Care at Stanton Yellowknife Hospital. She is currently the N.W.T., representative on the Canadian Council of Social Development. Barb has also been honoured in the past with the Centennial Medal - 1967, the Medal of Merit - 1969, and the Silver Jubilee Medal - 1977.

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## STATISTICS:

### FROM OUR REGISTRAR 1979:

Our N.W.T.R.N.A. Registrar, Mary Lou Pilling reported to the Board of Directors that 'the 1978-79 membership year ended on March 31, 1979 with a membership of 233 nurses holding an active practicing card and 52 nurses holding an associate card. This is an increase of 16% over the previous year'.

The registration committee meets once monthly to review and approve application for registration. Committee members include Mr. Jack Witty, Mrs. Edie Hiscock, Mrs. Irene Pook, and Mary Lou Pilling.

### NURSING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATION:

Irene Gilmour, a member of the committee on Nursing Assistant Certification, sent a report to the Board of Directors stating that since January 1978, there have been 22 Nursing Assistants Certified, 2 referred to write C.N.A.T.S. examination, 6 referred to more supervised experience, 17 require further proof of documents and 16 applications are being processed.

The chairman of the Certification Committee is Mrs. R. Rees, Assistant Superintendent of Vocational and Higher Education. Other members include Mrs. Audrey Holley, C.N.A., Mrs. Edna Schultz, a member of Vocational and Higher Education Staff and Irene Gilmour, R.N. representative of the N.W.T.R.N.A.



 Email

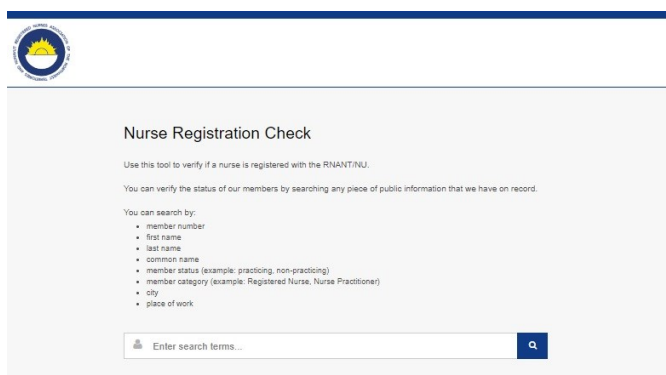
# FIND A NURSE

 Password

## WHAT IS FIND A NURSE?

Find a Nurse is an online register that provides information for the public, employers, and members about the registration status of nurses in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

When you visit our website at [www.rnantnu.ca](http://www.rnantnu.ca) you will see a button titled *Find a Nurse* in the header. Clicking this button will take you to the registration verification page.



## What kind of information is displayed about the member?

The registration verification tool provides the name and registration number of members who currently hold active-practicing memberships and are entitled to practice (RNs, NPs and temporary certificate holders). It also will tell you if the membership has expired. If you click the blue search button all information, notices, restrictions, etc. are displayed and you can print or save this page for your records.

## As an employer can I verify if nurse is registered?

Yes, any employer or member of the public can check on the registration status of our members. Enter the employees name in *Find a Nurse* and click on the blue search button. The next screen will provide the employee's information. If they are not listed, they are not registered. If it says contact office under status, please call our office at 867-873-2745.

## As a member, can I find my registration number and status?

Yes, just type in your name and you will see your registration number.



## FAQ: MEMBERS PORTAL

**I haven't been to the members portal since renewal. Are there reasons to go to the portal regularly?**

YES! The members portal allows you to access the dashboard where your membership card and receipts/invoices are located. This allows you to print and/or download copies to save for your files in an electronic format.

**I have moved and changed my email and phone number. How can I update this information with RNANT/NU?**

The home address section in your portal is where you can change your address, email and contact information.

**I just accepted a new position, where can I keep track of my employers?**

The Places of Work section is where you update your employer information if you have changed positions or want to keep a list of your employers. It is recommended to have the last 5 years of employers listed in this section.

**Is there a way to keep track of all my educational opportunities that I participate in throughout the year?**

In the education history section, you can keep track of your courses, webinars, inservice opportunities and conferences.

**I need my invoice to submit for reimbursement, where do I go?**

Click on the invoices and receipts. Here you can download and/or print invoices. It is recommended to download a copy and save to your files should you need this information in the future.

**I have decided to get a registration/license in another jurisdiction. How can I keep track of them all?**

Click on Other Registrations. If you apply to another jurisdiction you can keep track of your registrations/license information in this section. It is required that you notify RNANT/NU when you have a registration in another jurisdiction. This section allows you to have all the information needed for all jurisdictions you have ever been registered.

**I want to change my password. Where do I do that?**

You can reset online portal password in the security settings section.



# EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

## Canadian Infection Prevention and Control Courses

IPAC Canada Sponsored and Endorsed Courses

**Sponsored Courses** are developed and facilitated by IPAC Canada education experts.

**Endorsed Courses** refers to the official approval of IPAC Canada indicating that the course has met specific criteria related to content, length, instructors, evaluation and delivery.

Check out current availability [here](#)



## Controlled Drugs and Substances: Essential Management and Prescribing Practices

Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto

Online Course Content

This course is designed to provide nurse practitioners with the knowledge and skills required for safe, high quality assessment and management of clients who may require the prescription of a Controlled Drug or Substance (CDS). This course will deliver the education necessary for Nurse Practitioners in Canada to develop the required competencies for:

1. Prescribing and monitoring CDS in accordance with federal/provincial/territorial legislation, regulation & guidelines.
2. Integrating concepts of safety, ethics and evidence informed practice in decision making pertaining to prescribing CDS.
3. Developing and implementing client-centered CDS treatment plans which include education, monitoring and evaluation of outcomes.



## Certificate in Palliative Care for Nurse Practitioners: Core Competences for NP Practice

Bloomberg, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto

The certificate is for Nurse Practitioners, (and/or Nurse Practitioner Program students), and those in Advanced Practice and/or CNS roles who, as part of their routine practice, may be responsible for the care of adult clients with progressive and life-limiting illnesses. More information [here](#)



## Addiction Care and Treatment Online Certificate

The Addiction Care and Treatment Online Certificate is a free online certificate course targeted at health care professionals interested in learning more about providing care to patients with various substance use disorders, including alcohol, tobacco, stimulants, cannabis, and opioids. This program was supported by an investment by the Province of British Columbia and the Ministry of Health. Learn more [here](#).





Photo Credit: Shawna Tohm, Prosperous Lake, Ottawa, Hay River

## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

### SNAP A PICTURE

We are looking at updating our pictures on the RNANT/NU website and in our Newsletter to more clearly reflect where our Registered Nurses work and live. Our goal is to have one photo from each community!

### SHARE YOUR STORY

We are also collecting stories and comments from all over the Northwest Territories and Nunavut to feature in upcoming newsletters. Tell us about your new work initiatives, nursing travel, student news, upcoming events, or nominate a fellow nurse for our *Nurse to Know* feature!



When you email your pictures please include where and what time of year the picture is taken and that we have permission to use the photo. You will be given credit for the photo when used. If you include people in the photos we must have the Photo Release form completed, by each person in the photo, which can be found on our website [here](#).

