



NEWS FROM THE NORTH

Edition 8
Summer 2023



A message from RNANT/NU and YRNA..... 2

2023 ICN Congress..... 3

Canadian Nurses Association Elects New Board of Directors..... 3

Post COVID-19 Condition 4

Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators Meeting..... 6

Highlights from the Yukon7

Highlights from the NWT/Nunavut 9

Professional Conduct Decisions from the NWT/NUNAVUT..... 14

Other news and info 16

Connecting with us17



A message from RNANT/NU and YRNA

Hello all and welcome to our summer 2023 issue of the News from the North. As we announced in our last issue, we welcome Colleen Bytheway who has joined as the new Executive Director/Registrar for RNANT/NU.

Nursing continues to grapple with increasing complexity and challenging work environments across the country and we reflect on a system that places the onus on nurses to adapt to their work environments, rather than creating environments that adapt to those who work within.

The nursing Code of Ethics outlines 'ethical' (or moral) resilience as the "capacity of an individual to sustain or restore their integrity in response to moral complexity, confusion, distress or setbacks" within their practice. While resilience is a term that has been used to name characteristics attributable to nurses, the term is increasingly being used to describe an attitude or way of being that individuals can cultivate. In short, resilience is turned into an instrument to solve problems, rather than respond to problems. The challenges nurses are facing are not addressed by calls for resilience. Yet nurses are encouraged to dig deeper and cultivate practices for individual resilience so that they are better able to tolerate and survive highly challenging circumstances.

This is often done with good intentions by organizations and leaders keen to help colleagues who are suffering. However, evidence suggests that when nurses are asked to be more resilient, they feel less safe expressing when they are feeling overwhelmed. Instead, pressure to be more resilient increases the mental health burden. This is not to say that resilience is out-dated as a concept. However, the way in which we use the concept and design interventions around resilience matters. Without a doubt, providing nurses with the tools to be well at work by cultivating personal resilience including access to mental health supports and safe practice environments that encourage open discussion of the impacts of the current health care challenges are important interventions at an individual and team level.

From bedside to community to emergency operations, our system and those of us who make up the system must recognize and work with the very real personal and social toll that we are experiencing collectively and individually. This includes ensuring systems level challenges and failures are not reframed as individual shortcomings that could be solved by people just being more resilient. We must ensure that our systems are set up in such a way as to deliver solutions that are as complex as the challenges themselves.

We look forward to working together to address these complex issues impacting the profession.

Colleen Bytheway, RN, BN, MPA, Executive Director/Registrar, RNANT/NU

Jerome Marburg, LL.B. MBA, CEO, YRNA



Colleen Bytheway
Executive Director, RNANT/NU
[Email Colleen](#)



Jerome Marburg
CEO, YRNA
[Email Jerome](#)

2023 ICN Congress

From July 1-5, 2023 the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) hosted the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Congress. Over 6000 nurses representing 130 countries attended for four days of learning, networking, and collaboration. The theme, "Nurses Together: a force for global health", focuses on the ability of nursing professionals to shape the future of policies and practice to affect health system change. Common themes across the Congress included advancing opportunities for nursing leadership, working to address issues of recruitment, retention and burn-out while also understanding opportunities for and developing strategies to continue to position nurses as experts in health policy and promotion.

Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau addressed the crowd on the final day and spoke to the foundational work of nursing professionals not only during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, but as we address conflict and climate emergencies. Dr. Leigh Champman, Canada's Chief Nursing Officer, also provided perspectives on her work across Canada which includes addressing the current health and human resource shortages that are occurring across all jurisdictions.

As part of a pre-Congress event, the Council of National Nursing Association Representatives, who are the governing body for ICN, held their biennial meeting during which investment into the nursing workforce was a key topic. These discussions reinforced the work of the [Charter for Change](#) that ICN announced on International Nurses Day 2023. The Charter highlights ten principled actions that must be undertaken to sustain health care, shifting the focus on nurses as invaluable contributors to population health and wellness.

The [next ICN Congress](#) will be held June 9-13, 2025 in Helsinki, Finland.

Canadian Nurses Association Elects New Board of Directors

In June 2023, the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) held its annual meeting of members. After a transformative year, CNA provided a year in review, finalized governance changes, and announced its newly elected Board of Directors.

Congratulations to [those who ran](#) as well as the newly elected and returning Board members who will serve the interest of all nurses from across the country.

- President, [Sylvain Brousseau](#)
- President-Elect, [Kimberly LeBlanc](#)
- Vice-President, [Tracie Risling](#)
- Board Representative, [Stephanie Gilbert](#)
- Public Representative, [Carole Gins](#)
- Board Representative, [Farah Khan](#)
- Board Representative, [Bukola Salami](#)
- Board Representative, [Angela Wignall](#)

[Read the 2022 Annual Report](#)

[Year in Review video](#)



Post COVID-19 Condition

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 global pandemic on March 11, 2020. Since that time, there have been approximately 400,000 cases of COVID-19 illness in British Columbia, and more than 4.6 million cases to date across Canada.ⁱ Sadly, there have also been more than 51,000 deaths nationwide.ⁱⁱ In mid-2023 at the time of writing, more than three years after the COVID-19 pandemic was declared, COVID-19 activity levels have decreased and remain relatively stable across all provinces and territories. However, 'post- COVID-19 condition,' also known as 'long COVID-19,' continues to affect a large part of the population, with up to 15% of COVID-19 infected persons reporting symptoms three or more months after their initial infection with COVID-19.ⁱⁱⁱ As well, according to a recent national survey, 1.4 million Canadian adults, 4.6% of the Canadian adult population, indicated that they experienced symptoms consistent with post-COVID-19 condition.^{iv}

Research into post-COVID-19 condition has accelerated over the past several months^v and the condition is now defined as a 'cluster of mid- and long-term symptoms and conditions that some people experience after recovering from acute SARS-CoV-2 infection.'^{vi} According to the World Health Organization, those with post- COVID-19 condition may experience the same symptoms as their initial infection with COVID-19, or they may develop new ones after recovery.^{vii} Most commonly, symptoms include cardiovascular symptoms, chronic dyspnea, breathlessness, cognitive dysfunction, depression and anxiety, exercise intolerance, fatigue, joint pain, sleep disturbance, and symptoms consistent with renal injury.^{viii} However, others have reported symptoms such as chest pain, muscle pain, dry cough, persistent headache, rapid heartbeat, intermittent fever, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, and rash.^{ix} As well, post-COVID-19 condition is not a short-term condition; those who experience it see symptoms over long periods of time that may disappear and reoccur periodically.^x



In 2021, [one study monitoring long COVID-19 symptoms in Canadians](#) found that out of more than 1000 adult participants who had previously recovered from initial COVID-19 infection, 80% still experienced symptoms more than three months post recovery, while 50% continued to experience symptoms beyond eleven months.^{xi} As well, the United Kingdom's Office for National Statistics (ONS) has reported that approximately 24% of females and 21% of males with COVID-19 still experience symptoms up to five weeks after they initially tested positive, and 10% still experienced symptoms up to 12 weeks after, despite negative test results.^{xii} [Another study on the evolution of long COVID-19](#) out of the United States also found that of more than 270,000 COVID-19 patients, 36% of them still experienced symptoms six months following their initial infection.^{xiii} Overall, many preliminary studies at this point in the pandemic estimate that between approximately 10% and 60% of a population may experience long COVID-19.^{xiv}

At this time, it remains unclear who may experience post-COVID-19 condition after infection, however, current evidence suggests that females, individuals who were hospitalized from COVID-19 infection, individuals with underlying chronic conditions, and those who didn't receive at least two or more doses of a COVID-19 vaccine may be more susceptible to the condition.^{xv} As well, a [Swiss study which analyzed blood samples](#) from COVID-19 patients identified age, initial severity and number of symptoms, history of asthma, history of chronic fatigue syndrome, and initial antibody response levels as contributors to higher risk of long COVID-19.^{xvi} Additionally, while there are fewer studies of COVID-19 effects on children, research out of Italy notes that approximately 42% of children who tested positive for the virus experienced at least one symptom 120 days later, and the symptoms were debilitating enough that they affected their daily activities.^{xvii} The symptoms seen in pediatric cases are similar to those found in adults, including fatigue, headaches, insomnia, joint pain, respiratory problems and heart palpitations.^{xviii} However, observable data from emerging research shows that COVID-19 vaccination may likely reduce the risk of developing post-COVID-19 condition as well as the severity of symptoms when doses are administered to those already living with the condition.^{xix} Based on this emerging research, a significant reduction in the incidence has been noticed.

Data on the long-term effects in COVID-19 patients continues to build, potentially yielding additional clues to this phenomenon as it becomes an increasing focus of interest. The [Canadian COVID-19 Prospective Cohort Study](#) (CANCOV) was

the first Canadian study to look at one-year and two-year outcomes for those who experienced COVID-19 infection to help provide information to clinicians and policymakers around post- COVID-19 condition.^{xx} To date the study has recruited more than 2000 participants from across BC, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec, and several areas of research are underway. Additionally, researchers across Canada and in post-COVID-19 interdisciplinary clinics continue to work with individuals experiencing post-COVID-19 condition to better understand the impacts of COVID-19 infection. These COVID-19 clinics utilize teams of specialists that may include cardiologists, neurologists, rheumatologists, psychiatrists, dermatologists, physiotherapists, and nurses. Generally, treatment at the clinics is based on the symptoms being experienced and may evolve as new science emerges.

As the long-term implications of COVID-19 continue to be studied it is imperative that nurses continue to stay up to date with evidence-based research on the effects of COVID-19 including post-COVID-19 condition.

Current research demonstrates that there is an extensive list of potential symptoms, and that keeping up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations is key in preventing COVID-19 infection and subsequently post-COVID-19 condition. Nurses will play a central role in helping people to understand the process of recovery from COVID-19 illness and manage the ongoing symptoms they may experience. Because nurses are consistently voted amongst the most trusted of health professionals, they are ideally positioned to help educate the broader public about these lasting effects, and to emphasize why prevention is the best approach.

Further Reading/Resources

- [Yukon Government, Post COVID Condition](#)
- [Public Health Agency of Canada: Post COVID-19 Condition](#)
- [Long COVID WEB: A network supporting and conducting research into the Post-COVID Condition](#)
- [Long COVID Resources Canada](#)
- [COVID Long-Haulers Canada: Canada's Largest Online COVID Community](#)

Reprinted with permission from the Nurses and Nurse Practitioner Association of BC.

ⁱ BC CDC and PHSA. [British Columbia COVID-19 Dashboard](#). April 20, 2023; Government of Canada. [COVID-19 epidemiology update: summary](#). June 27, 2023.

ⁱⁱ Johns Hopkins University & Medicine. [COVID-19 Dashboard by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering \(CSSE\): Canada](#). March 10, 2023.

ⁱⁱⁱ Chief Science Advisor of Canada. [Post-COVID-19 Condition in Canada: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and a Framework for Action](#). December 2022; Davis HE, McCorkell L, Vogel JM and Topol EJ. *Nature Review Microbiology* 21. [Long COVID: Major findings, mechanisms and recommendations](#). January 2023.

^{iv} Statistics Canada. [Long-term symptoms in Canadian adults who tested positive for COVID-19 or suspected an infection, January 2020 to August 2022](#). October 2022.

^v Subramanian A, Niratharakuman K, Hughes S, Myles P, et al. *Nature Medicine*. [Symptoms and risk factors for long COVID in non-hospitalized adults](#). July 2022.

^{vi} Chief Science Advisor of Canada. [Post-COVID-19 Condition in Canada: What We Know, What We Don't Know, and a Framework for Action](#). 2022

^{vii} WHO. [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Post COVID-19 condition](#). March 2023.

^{viii} WHO. [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\): Post COVID-19 condition](#). 2023; Byambasuren O, Stehlik P, Clark J, Alcorn K and Glasziou P. *BMJ*. [Effect of covid-19 vaccination on long covid: systematic review](#). 2022; Davis, et al. [Long COVID: Major findings, mechanisms and recommendations](#). 2023; WHO. [A clinical case definition of Post COVID-19 condition by a Delphi consensus](#). 2021; WHO. [Living Guidance for Clinical Management of COVID-19](#). November 2021.

^{ix} Chung T, Hosey Mastalerz M, Kole Morrow A, Venkatesan A, and Pfeil Brigham E. *Hopkins Medicine*. 'COVID-19 Long Haulers': [Long-Term Effects of COVID-19](#). December 8, 2021; WHO. [Update on clinical long-term effects of COVID-19: The latest on the COVID-19 global situation & long-term sequelae](#). WHO COVID-19 Update 54. March 26, 2021.

^x Strain WD, Sherwood O, Banerjee A, Van der Togt V, et al. *Vaccines (Basel)*. [The Impact of COVID Vaccination on Symptoms of Long COVID: An International Survey of People with Lived Experience of Long COVID](#). April 2022.

Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators Meeting

Colleen Bytheway, Executive Director/Registrar, RNANT/NU and Jerome Marburg, CEO, YRNA were privileged to be part of a meeting of the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNR) meeting in late July. CCRNR, comprised of all 12 nurse regulators from across the country, work collaboratively towards ensuring consistency in nursing regulation for the protection of the public. Dr. Leigh Chapman, Canada's Chief Nursing Officer, was a special guest. [Learn more about CCRNR.](#)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YUKON

Highlights from the Yukon

Continuing Competency Program

Continuing Nurse Education Fund

Monthly Open House

Join us each month for 'Coffee with the CEO and Registrar'. Visit our offices, have some refreshments on us, share your stories, thoughts, questions, and ideas for us at YRNA or about nursing in the Yukon. Open house dates for the remainder of 2023 are as follows: *August 17, September 21, October 19, November 9, and December 14.*

We are located at 4133 4th Ave, Suite 204 in Whitehorse. Drop us an email if you plan to attend so that we can be sure to have refreshments on hand!

For questions, please contact Registrar, Paul Banks at registrar@yrna.ca.

Health Human Resources Steering Committee formed to help bolster Yukon healthcare

On July 27, 2023 the Government of Yukon announced the creation of a health and human resources (HHR) steering committee to be led by the Government of Yukon and the Yukon Hospital Corporation. Comprised of representatives from the Yukon Registered Nurses Association, the Yukon Hospital Corporation, the Yukon Medical Association, the Yukon Medical Council, Yukon First Nations, the Yukon Employees Union, Yukon University, the Professional Institute of the Public Service of Canada and multiple Yukon government department representatives, the committee will work to address the global shortage of health workers. [Read the press release.](#)

Arctic Yearbook - Arctic Pandemics: COVID-19 and other pandemic experiences and lessons learned

The Arctic Yearbook is now [available online](#). Please note On September 7, 2023 from 11-12:30 ET a webinar will be hosted to officially launch the collection. In conjunction with the webinar an in-person event will occur at the Arctic Circle in Reykjavik, Iceland. Details as they become available will be posted [here](#).

Also from the Arctic Review, read "[The impacts of COVID-19 on Yukon's frontline healthcare workers](#)" by Liris P.R. Smith, Mark R. Christopher & Michelle D. Leach.

2023 AGM

The YRNA held its AGM on Saturday 13 May 2023 from 11am-1pm. Thank you to everyone who participated and for sharing your insights.

- [Review the Annual Report](#)
- [Review YRNA's Advocacy Update](#)

A tribute to Pelly Crossing Public Health Nurse, Arita De Boer

In 1979, during the International Year of the Child, public health nurse Arita De Boer from Pelly Crossing embarked on a plan to take the children of Pelly Crossing on a trip. Her goal was simple give kids, many of whom who had never left the Yukon, an opportunity to see and experience other parts of the country. Hard work and community fundraising efforts paid off and Anita and a group of other volunteers were able to take the children to Vancouver to enjoy the sights and experience a modern city. Arita passed away earlier this year and, according to her family and friends, always spoke fondly of her time in

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YUKON



Pelly Crossing and of the children she had opportunity to travel with. While not traditional 'nursing work', the ability to connect with people in the community demonstrates the wide-reaching way in which nurses impact the communities and those who live in them.

- [Read the article](#)
- [View the photos](#)

Duty to Report

Nurses are ranked consistently as the most trusted of health professionals in several opinion polls conducted across North America. Part of this trust is based on nurses' positional ethical and legal responsibilities as set out in legislation, practice standards and codes of ethics. Once such responsibility is the 'duty to report'. This means that nurses have an ethical and legal responsibility to report the practice of any other health professional if it is incompetent, impaired or unethical and poses a danger to the public.

In the Yukon, under the [Registered Nurses Professions Act](#), employers who terminate or restrict the duties of either RNs or NPs must report to the registrar these changes if the RN or NP:

- Is unfit to practice due to physical or mental disorder;
- If the actions of the RN or NP constitute misconduct, incompetence or incapacity;
- If the RN or NP poses a danger to people in their care.

Additionally, the Act stipulates that if the above were not yet reported prior to the RN or NP resigning their employment, the employer is still obligated to notify the registrar of the offences.

All reports are sent to the complaints committee and no negative action will be undertaken against a complainant who makes a report in good faith. If you are considering a complaint, this [Complaint Evaluation Toolkit](#) is a helpful resource.

Please feel free to direct questions to either [Jerome Marburg, CEO](#) or [Paul Banks, Registrar](#).

Continuing Nurse Education Fund

Registrants can apply through YRNA for funding for continuing education through the Quality Assurance Education Fund provided by Yukon Health & Social services. These funds support eligible Yukon RNs/NPs who wish to pursue continuing education. [Learn more and apply today!](#)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT

Highlights from the NWT/Nunavut

Professional Practice

Make your voice count - join CNA!

"As a well-seasoned nurse leader and activist, I encourage you to join CNA so that, together, we can build a better future in nursing" — Linda Silas, President of the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions (CFNU)

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) needs you! Less than 1% of nurses in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are members of Canada's national nursing association. Your provincial and territorial licensing fees no longer include CNA membership. If you have not joined directly, you are **not** a CNA member (you can easily [check to see if you're a member](#)).

CNA is member-driven, voluntary organization. This means, without you there is no CNA. As a trusted leader in advocacy and policy development, we help advance the nursing profession and improve health outcomes. To continue doing this, we need the voices and participation of our individual members. CNA welcomes all regulated categories of nurses, nursing students and retired nurses.

When you join CNA, you can take advantage of exclusive [member benefits](#). There are a variety of [personal benefits](#), including savings with TD Insurance and Telus, and [professional benefits](#), including savings on subscriptions to UpToDate, NursingSKL, and Longwoods journals.

[Join today](#) to help us advance nursing excellence and strengthen CNA's role as one of Canada's top health-care lobbyists.

Renewal 2024

Online renewal for the 2024 Registration Year is set to start on October 17 and will run through December 31, 2023, until 11:59 p.m. MST Please be advised that registrations occurring from December 15 – 31, 2023, will be considered late registration and will incur late fees of \$100 + GST. Please refer to the [Fee Schedule](#).

New Nursing Profession Act

Bill 77, [Nursing Profession Act](#) passed first and second reading in the NWT Legislature at the end of March, 2023.

Legislation Highlights

- **New Name:** College and Association of Nurses of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut
- **New Acronym:** CANNN
- **Why?** College is added to reflect the regulatory mandate. All other regulatory bodies in Canada are now called "College". To reflect advocacy for the nursing profession in our mandate, "Association" was retained. Nursing is the only self-regulating health profession in the NWT and NU.
- [Read the plain language summary.](#)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



Stepping into the Future

- *Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs)* and *Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPNs)* will become self-regulatory and join the College and Association of Nurses of the NWT and NU.
- LPN's and RPN's will need to be registered with CANNN in 2024. Registration will open in October 2023.

This means Licensed Practical Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses will participate in the development and regulation of their own standards, entry level competencies and scope of practice as well as professional conduct of the profession.

Other Items of note

- *Professional Conduct*: The legislation was updated to reflect current practices and legislation.
- *Language*: The legislation was written with gender-neutral pronouns.
- *RN and RPN Authorized Prescriber*: Provision has been made for RN and RPN prescribing.
- Since the formation of Nunavut, nursing in the NWT and NU is self-regulated by a single regulatory body.

We CANNN Do It!

United - Nursing is Stronger!!

Summer Food Drive

RNANT/NU was happy to join the 2nd Annual Summer Food Drive on July 8th, 2023, in partnership with Independent and True North 100.1 FM. The donation drive aimed to support the Yellowknife Food Bank. RNANT/NU strongly supports this important initiative that benefits the community. If you would like to extend your support through a donation, please contact ykfoodbank@gmail.com.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



AGM- Save the Date!

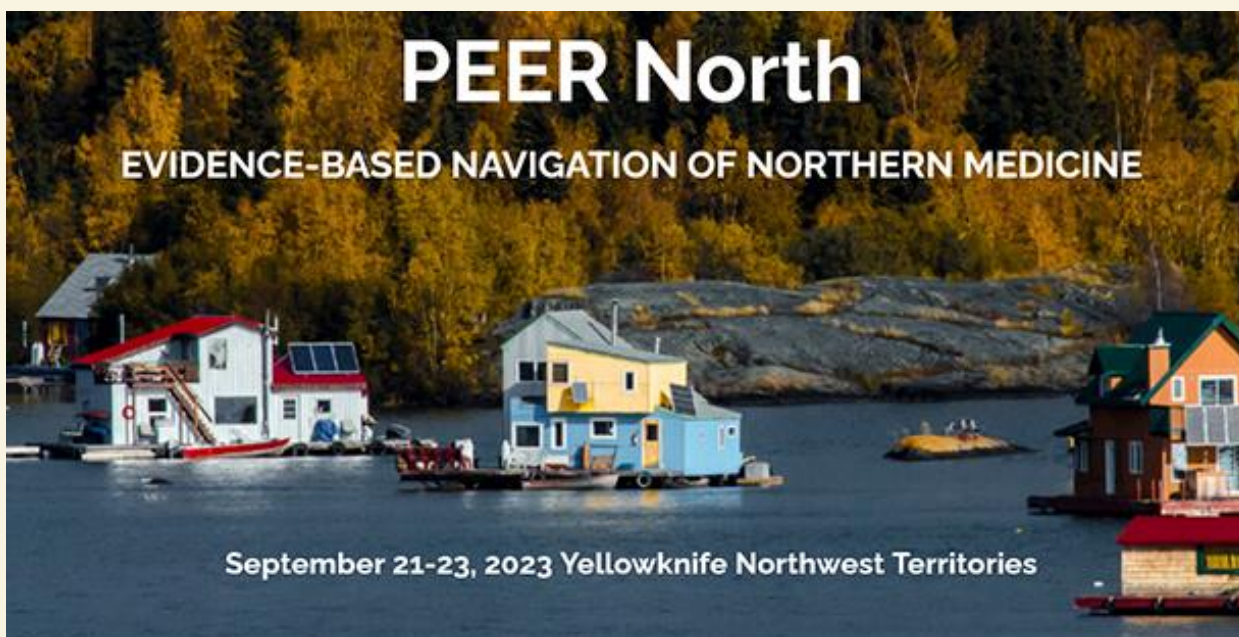
The RNANT/NU AGM will be held in Yellowknife with virtual connection options available on October 21, 2023. All members will be sent invitations as the date draws nearer.

Online Learning Opportunities

- [Queens University Infection Prevention and Control](#)
- [Strategies for Supporting Nursing Students](#)

2023 PEER North Conference-Evidence Based Navigation of Northern Medicine

The PEER North Conference will be held in Yellowknife from September 21-23, 2023 with both in person and virtual options. Registration will open in June 2023. Learn more and sign up for notifications by [clicking here](#).



Invitation to Participate in a Research Study on Nurses' Experience of Violence in the Workplace

If you have experienced violence, aggression or abuse from patients or clients during your career, consider participating in a supportive and confidential research student conducted by Jennifer Dunsfiord, RN, MN, MPA and supervised by Dr. J. Senchi of Peace and Conflict Studies. [Learn more about how to participate](#).

Board Nominations

If you or a nursing colleague are a good candidate for the NWT South Representative, please consider submitting a nomination. Please feel free to direct questions to the [Executive Director](#). Similarly, if you know of members of the public for vacant NU and NWT positions, please contact us.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



Registration enhancements

During the early days of the pandemic, RNANT/NU issued expedited registrations and developed a new sub-category for virtual care nursing to meet the emergent needs of COVID-19. In the Spring of 2022, we signed an agreement with the College of Nurses of Alberta (CRNA) and the College of Nurses of Saskatchewan (CRNS) streamlining the process for virtual care registrations. There are over 150 RNs and NPs from Alberta Health Services and Covenant Health providing care to residents of the NWT and Nunavut. We continue to collaborate with our health care partners to support health care systems needs.

Updates Language Proficiency Cut Scores/Benchmarks

Communicating effectively in English or French is a critical factor in providing safe nursing practice in Canada. The Canadian Nurse Regulators Collaborative (CNRC), of which the Registered Nurses Association of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut is a member, created a Steering Committee tasked to review the current language proficiency requirements for the regulated nursing professions. The objective of this review was to determine the current English and French language proficiency levels for listening, reading, writing, and speaking, as well as recommend the best approach and method(s) to assess the language proficiency of internationally educated nurses. The CNRC Board of Directors recently approved and adopted the recommendation from the Steering Committee.

Please stay tuned for a further announcement about the results of the current research exploring alternative approaches to assess language proficiency.

- View the November 2022 news release [here](#).
- To view the background document please [click here](#).
- To learn more about the Canadian Nurse Regulators Collaborative (CRNC) [click here](#).

CPD 2023 Courses

The Centre for Professional Development, Faculty of Nursing, University of Toronto, provides a variety of innovative programs, courses, and institutes to advance your skills and enhance your knowledge.

Course information can be [found here](#).

Aurora College BSN Program Preceptor of the Year Award

Faculty and students at the Aurora College Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program celebrated Nursing Week 2023 by honoring registered nurses who support the program through preceptorship. Fourth year BSN students were invited to submit a short narrative nominating their preceptor for the second annual Preceptor of the Year award. This year's recipient was Meladine Salaveria who was nominated by 2023 BSN graduate Zita Korie who worked with Meladine in the Mental Health Unit at Stanton Territorial Hospital. Zita captured Meladine's contribution to nursing education in her nomination letter by noting:

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECISIONS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



"The learning and knowledge I have gained from Meladine are unique from anything I have experienced. I knew my experience in the psychiatric unit would be filled with new learning and great experiences, but I did not expect the profound effect Meladine would have on my growth in confidence and future nursing practices. She is one of the most incredible Registered Nurses I have ever had the privilege of working with. Meladine exemplifies the characteristics of the type of nurse that I aspire to be. In addition to building trusting relationships with her clients, she is detail-oriented, an excellent time management mentor, and a strong advocate for her unit. She has always provided an environment for me to ask questions and is willing to challenge me as well as stand by to support me. I was immediately drawn to Meladine's ability to build empathetic, therapeutic relationships with clients. In addition to demonstrating excellent role modeling, Meladine's leadership in handling issues and advocating for patients makes her stand out. Meladine took her role as a preceptor seriously, enjoyed teaching, and advocated for other colleagues to consider becoming preceptors. She encouraged me to educate junior nursing students and stated that teaching is part of being a Registered Nurse. Meladine has made an impactful impression on me, and I will continue to carry what I have gained from her throughout my future nursing practice."



The BSN program faculty and students are pleased to celebrate Meladine, a registered nurse, who demonstrates the support and guidance required for student success. Thank you to all the registered nurses who took the time to preceptor students this past year for their continued support of nursing education and for promoting the role of preceptor among colleagues in practice.

Follow us on social media

[Facebook](#) [Instagram @RNANT/NU](#) [Twitter](#)

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECISIONS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



Professional Conduct Decisions from the NWT/NUNAVUT

RNANT/NU publishes professional conduct decisions to meet our mandate of public protection, to demonstrate openness and transparency to the public about professional conduct and to educate our members on what is unprofessional and unethical conduct. The Board of Directors reviewed jurisdictional best practices in Canada and amended Policy PCR1: Publication of Professional Conduct Decisions to include the publication of the registration number and name of the member in the newsletter.

RNANT/NU Member # 8228 Patricia Legge

On April 27, 2023, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. In February 2023, a complaint was received alleging that the Member failed to meet accepted standards of conduct as a result of posting pictures, on the member's Facebook where she clearly identifies herself as a nurse, of nursing staff at a Community Health Centre suturing a laceration on one of the nurses' body. The posts were public and the pictures in the posts were very graphic. The member wrote a reflective practice paper regarding the member's recent use of social media platforms, reflecting on how the social media posts were detrimental to the best interests of the public and harmed the standing of the nursing profession.

RNANT/NU Member # 5513 Shayna Hallett

On July 21, 2023, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. In June 2023, a complaint was received alleging the Member failed to meet accepted standards of conduct as a result of improper and unprofessional use of social media. A picture was taken of the Member holding an object that had been removed from a patient. The picture was then posted to a group chat. The Member, while at a city gymnasium, discussed and showed the group chat postings to the members of the exercise class. The Member will complete MacEwan University's Responsible Nursing course and will write a reflective practice paper regarding how the picture taking and posting of the pictures on social media violated the Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses and the Code of Ethics.

RNANT/NU Member #6770 Judith Boyer

On July 24, 2023, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. In April and May of 2022 complaints were received alleging that on more than one occasion the Member failed to assess two patients accurately and thoroughly resulting in a delay in the required treatment causing the patients to have prolonged suffering. It is also alleged the Member failed to follow the NTHSSA'S policies At Risk: Must See at Health Centre and Telephone Advice when the Member took a call regarding a five-month-old infant experiencing breathing difficulties. The Member will complete MacEwan University's Introduction to Health Assessment course and the Community Health course.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT DECISIONS FROM THE NWT/NUNAVUT



RNANT/NU Member # 6574 Amy Berdusco

On July 24, 2023, the Chairperson of the Professional Conduct Committee approved a settlement agreement between RNANT/NU and the Member. In June 2023, a complaint was received alleging the Member failed to meet accepted standards of conduct as a result of improper and unprofessional use of social media. The Member took a picture of a nursing colleague holding an object that had been removed from a patient. The Member then posted the pictures to a group chat. The Member will complete MacEwan University's Responsible Nursing course and will write a reflective practice paper regarding how the picture taking and posting of the pictures on social media violated the Standards of Practice for Registered Nurses and the Code of Ethics

Other news and info

- The PEER North Conference will be held in Yellowknife from September 21-23, 2023 with both in person and virtual options. Learn more by [going here](#).
- The Canadian Association for Mental Health (CAMH) is currently offering the Immigrant and Refugee Mental Health Course. This free, self-directed course provides evidence-based information to support immigrants and refugees arriving to Canada. The course occurs over six weeks and will take approximately 20-25 hours to complete. Space is limited so please learn more about when and how to register by visiting [their website](#).
- The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) has a wealth of resources on their website including:
 - [Renew your membership or join today!](#)
 - [CNA Certification](#)
 - [Upcoming events](#)
 - [Policy and Advocacy Work](#)
 - [General news and information](#)
 - [And more!](#)
- The Canadian Nurses Protective Society (CNPS) not only provides comprehensive liability protection for nurses, but also offers a wealth of resources, educational opportunities and materials that benefit nurses. Their website provides numerous [educational opportunities](#) on a variety of topics. Check out [their website](#) for more information.
- The Canadian Coalition for Seniors' Mental Health (CCSMH) is offering free, asynchronous, accredited eLearning modules on Cannabis and Older Adults. [Click here](#) for more information and to register.



Connecting with us

We want to hear from you! Please reach out at any time if you have questions, concerns or if you'd like to see us feature a specific story in our next newsletter.



Email us: execast@rnanntnu.ca

Visit the website

[Registered Nurses Association of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut](#)



Email us: admin@yrna.ca

Visit the website

[Yukon Registered Nurses Association](#)

