



NEWS FROM THE NORTH

FALL 2024



Welcome

01 A Message from CANNN

Yukon Highlights

- 02 New Regulations / Changes to NP Prescribing Schedule
- 03 Scope of Practice
- 03 Continuing Nurses Fund Intake
- 03 Code of Ethical Conduct

NWT and NU Highlights

- 04 CANNN Staff Attends the Canadian Network of Agencies of Regulation Conference
- 04 New Bylaws Approved
- 05 New Board of Directors Competency Matrix Approved
- 05 Community Fund Voting
- 06 Changes Coming to the Continuing Competency Program
- 06 Welcome Renata Kamieniecki as our New Director of Quality Practice
- 07 Right Touch Regulation At A Glance

Contact information

07 Connecting With Us



A MESSAGE FROM CANNN

It has been a busy and productive time at the College and Association of Nurses of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut since our last newsletter. We have actively engaged in several key initiatives that enhance our commitment to supporting nurses and protecting the public across the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Recently, we participated in the Canadian Network of Agencies of Regulation, where we collaborated with other regulatory bodies to share best practices and address common challenges. This engagement is crucial for fostering a cohesive approach to nursing regulation and ensuring the highest standards of practice.

In addition, we have successfully passed new bylaws that will strengthen our governance framework and enhance our operational efficiency. We are also pleased to announce the approval of our board of directors' composition matrix, which outlines the skills and expertise we seek in our governance team. This matrix is used to ensure we have a diverse and capable board that reflects the values and interests of the registrants that we regulate, and the public we serve.

Looking ahead, we are excited to host a webinar featuring Dr. Leigh Chapman on December 10th at 12 MT. Dr. Chapman's insights promise to be both informative and inspiring, and we encourage all members to participate in this enriching opportunity.

Moreover, we are seeking volunteers for various committees. Your involvement is vital to our ongoing efforts to improve our services. Please visit our website for more information.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Together, we are making strides towards a stronger nursing community in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Warm regards,



Megan Wood, Executive Director/Registrar
College and Association of Nurses of the
Northwest Territories and Nunavut (CANNN)



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YUKON HIGHLIGHTS



New regulations / changes to NP prescribing schedule



Yukon Governed has passed an Order in Council to bring into effect changes to the regulation under the *Registered Nurses Profession Act* in the Yukon.

We have been working with government for many years on this file. The Board asked government some years ago to amend the act and regulations in a number of areas. While we were not successful in all of our requests, we are deeply grateful to government for accepting most of our requests and recommendations. We are grateful as well that they allowed legislative counsel to work with us on the regulation amendments. Special thanks as well to Heike Fraser, policy analyst extraordinaire, with Community Services, the government ministry with oversight of our legislation.

The changes in the regulations fall under two categories. First are changes to the Prescribing Schedule for Nurse Practitioners, removing many of the restrictions that were originally in the document and which no longer reflect modern practice

and regulations. This is not a criticism of the previous legislation, but a reflection on growth and development in the profession over time and the need for periodic updates to the legislation itself. While there are quite a number of changes, the key highlights are the removal of impediments for Nurse Practitioners to provide Medical Assistance in Dying services consistent with changes to the *Criminal Code of Canada* and National policy; as well as in the area of sexual and reproductive health.

Most of the regulation changes relate to the YRNA's powers to register and license Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners providing more streams of entry into the profession as well as allowing the YRNA to license applicants directly rather than having to rely on endorsement as has been the case in the past.

The regulations will allow for new classes of registration ranging from full, interim, courtesy, virtual, and multijurisdictional.

Under the **interim class**, the YRNA will not only be able to register new graduates and allow them to write the NCLEX, but also register internationally educated nurses, allowing them to undertake competency assessment and licensing examinations leading up to a license to practice in the Yukon. In anticipation of these changes, YRNA entered into formal agreements with the National Council of State Boards of Nursing which now permits us direct access to the NCLEX – meaning that we can issue authorizations to test to recent graduates.

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YUKON HIGHLIGHTS

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They no longer have to apply to another Canadian regulator to gain access to the exam.

The **courtesy class** essentially replaces what used to be called special practice permits, and will allow nurses to be registered for up to 30 days at a time when coming to the Yukon to teach courses, or provide specialty clinics not usually available otherwise.

The **virtual class** will make it easier and more cost effective for nurses to register in the Yukon while providing pre- and post- procedure care for

Yukoners who have to travel out of Territory for care not available locally.

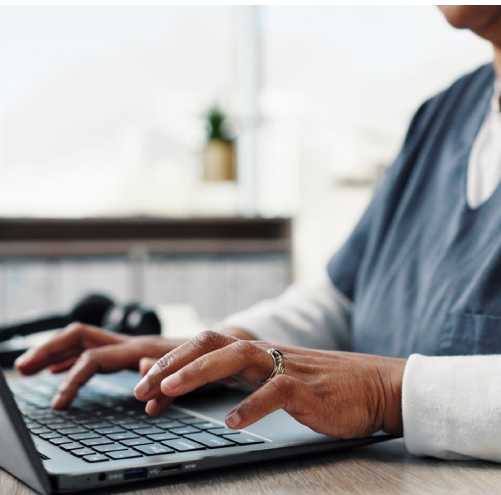
Finally, a **multijurisdictional class** will be available to accommodate registration through multilateral agreements between Canadian nursing regulatory jurisdictions. We are working with our nursing regulatory colleagues across the country to define framework agreements, protocols, and procedures to enable multijurisdictional licensing in the future.

CONTINUING NURSES FUND INTAKE

Deadline: November 30 2024

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.

APPLY NOW



SCOPE OF PRACTICE

The Board revitalized the Nursing Practice Committee, charging it to work with staff to produce a policy document for Board consideration, public consultation, and once finalized, adoption as a formal standard and guideline. The committee has met many times over the past number of months and has produced a draft document for Board consideration. That document will be shared with the profession and with stakeholders for review and comment in the near future. Once all comments have been received and considered a finalized document will be presented to the board for formal adoption.

CODE OF ETHICAL CONDUCT

YRNA is updating our Code of Conduct, in collaboration with several other Canadian jurisdictions so that codes of conduct reflect modern practice and concepts of professionalism, and are as closely aligned as possible on a national level. The code of conduct will be sent out over the next few months for engagement/feedback.



To read the current ethical code of conduct, please visit www.yrna.ca/standards

NWT AND NUNAVUT HIGHLIGHTS



Image credit: www.cnar-rcor.ca



CANNN Staff Attends the Canadian Network of Agencies of Regulation Conference

The Canadian Network of Agencies of Regulation (CNAR) is a professional association of regulators from diverse fields in Canada.

It was established in 2003 as a federation of national organizations whose provincial and territorial members are responsible for protecting the public through self-regulation. CNAR held their annual conference in Ottawa October 7 – 9, 2024. CANNN’s Executive Director, Megan Wood, Deputy Registrar, Amelie Duval and Director of Professional Conduct, Amelia Manuel, attended.

Session topics included the evolution of Continuing Competency Programs, Registrant Perspectives on Indigenous Cultural Safety, Cultural Humility and Anti-Racism, Trauma-Informed Professional Regulation, Advanced Strategies for Navigating Complex Situations and Understanding the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the Regulatory Context.

Our Director of Professional Conduct, Amelia Manuel, co-presented the session, “Regulatory Whack-a-Mole: Tackling Bullying, Competing and Retaliatory Complaints from the Perspective of Multiple Nursing Regulators”

Participation in this event keeps CANNN up to date on regulatory processes, which promotes public safety and enhances our ability to operate in a way that ensures members are receiving the best possible information and services from their regulator.

Segments from the conference can be viewed on CNAR’s YouTube channel:

[VIEW HERE](#)



NEW BYLAWS APPROVED

Updated bylaws governing the College and Association of Nurses of the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (CANNN) were approved and put into effective as of September 25, 2024. These bylaws serve to ensure the integrity of the nursing profession, establish procedures for professional conduct, and guide the operation of the College in both Territories.

The new Bylaws can be viewed through the following link:

[VIEW HERE](#)

DEFINITIONS

In these bylaws, unless the context requires otherwise:

“**Act**” means the Nursing Profession Act;

“**Board**” means the Board of Directors established pursuant to Section 13 of the Act; and

“**Standards**” means the Standards of Practice for Nurses

NWT AND NUNAVUT HIGHLIGHTS

New Board of Directors Competency Matrix Approved

CANNN functions under the dual mandate to safeguard the well-being of the public through the regulatory functions of registration and professional conduct review; it also advocates for the interests of nurses through establishing and maintaining codes of ethics and practice, standards of practice and scopes of practice with strategic member engagement and effective leadership, it aims to foster a culture of inclusivity and support. CANNN's Board Of Directors (BOD) is responsible for the direction, leadership, and strategy of the organization. The BOD recognizes it is essential to have the skills, knowledge and attributes to understand the matters brought to the Board so it

can function in a way that builds, honours, and maintains public trust and the trust of nurses.

The new matrix includes academic and professional skills, personal values, lived experiences, varied backgrounds, perspectives and knowledge. This gives nuanced perspectives and backgrounds relevant to specific decisions that the Board makes for the organization.

The complete Board and Committee Composition Matrices Overview can be viewed through the following link:

[VIEW HERE](#)



BODY MOVES DISCOUNT

CANNN has partnered with BodyMoves Scrubs Boutique to offer an additional 15% off! Visit www.bodymoves.ca and enter the code **cannn15** at checkout.

This promo codes applies to anything in store, including all brands such as: Barco ONE, Grey's Anatomy, Skechers, Cherokee, Landau, Med Couture, White Cross and Zavate! Happy shopping!

[SHOP NOW](#)

COMMUNITY FUND VOTING

Across Canada, and in particular, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, there is a shortage of healthcare professionals. This is especially true in remote and isolated communities in the North. The nursing workforce is essential for the operation of health centers and the delivery of health services to residents living in our remote communities.

We hope to assist in recruiting and retaining nurses in northern communities. We would like to achieve this goal by offering Bursaries to nursing students and nurses who live and work in the north. Awards are in recognition of outstanding contributions to community health and the nursing profession.

Our Executive Director, Megan Wood, has submitted a proposal on behalf of CANNN for a bursary program for northern nurses and student nurses.

It is now open for voting, so vote for us, and share the news!!

[LEARN MORE](#)

NWT AND NUNAVUT HIGHLIGHTS

Changes Coming to the Continuing Competency Program

As part of our mandate to protect the public through the regulation of RNs, RPNs, LPNs and NPs, CANNN is required to maintain a continuing competency program (CCP).

Our current CCP will be transitioning into a quality assurance (QA) program to align with best practices and current national standards. The purpose of the QA program is to ensure the public continually receives safe, competent, and ethical care by supporting nurses in engaging in ongoing reflection and development.

RNs, RPNs, LPNs and NPs are autonomous professionals with broad scopes and significant professional responsibilities. This means they

must be lifelong learners, who continually assess and improve their practice.

Renata Kamieniecki, Director of Quality Practice, will be seeking volunteers from all disciplines and both Territories to serve on a CCP/ QA Committee when work on this project begins in 2025. If you are interested in serving on this committee, be on the lookout for updates and announcements in the new year.

Reminder

It is a member's responsibility to update the following information, before submitting renewal application.

- Email address
- Contact number
- Home address and Mailing address (if not the same)
- Current Workplace

DID YOU KNOW?

If you renew as non-practicing for 2025 and anticipate needing an active license in the future, you will need to apply for full reinstatement to regain active membership.

WELCOME RENATA KAMIENIECKI AS OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF QUALITY PRACTICE

We are excited to welcome Renata Kamieniecki as our new Director of Quality Practice. Renata has been a Registered Psychiatric Nurse (RPN) since 1998, with extensive experience in Vancouver, San Francisco, and across Nunavut. Her diverse career includes working in acute in-patient psychiatry, community mental health care, street nursing, assertive case management, leadership, teaching, and research.

Renata is passionate about providing high-quality, trauma-informed mental health care to individuals in remote northern communities. Since moving to Nunavut in 2020, her focus has been on reducing the stigma around mental health and substance use, while also advocating for the wellness of her colleagues. Her notable achievements include co-authoring a medical record review on early psychosis and presenting at two international conferences.



She has also been involved in numerous quality improvement projects and policy development initiatives.

Renata is thrilled to see RPNs being regulated by CANNN and is eager to explore ways to further involve RPNs within the organization.

NWT AND NUNAVUT HIGHLIGHTS

Right Touch Regulation At A Glance

Right Touch Regulation is an approach to regulatory decision making, based on a thorough evaluation of risk, with the focus on outcomes and public safety. It assists in determining the minimum regulatory force required to achieve a desired effect. The key strength of riskbased regulation is that when used well, it provides a clear, transparent, and rational basis for determining what and how to regulate. When risks are both quantified and qualified, regulation decisions can be described as risk based.

PRINCIPLES OF RIGHT TOUCH REGULATION

- 1. **Proportionate:** Regulators should only intervene when necessary and the actions should be appropriate to the risk posed and identifying/minimizing costs.
- 2. **Consistent:** Rules and standards must be implemented fairly.
- 3. **Targeted:** Regulation should be focused on the problem.
- 4. **Transparent:** Regulators should be open and keep regulations simple and user friendly.
- 5. **Accountable:** Regulators must be able to justify decisions and prepared for public scrutiny.
- 6. **Agile:** Regulators must be visionary, anticipate change rather than looking back to prevent previous crisis from recurring. An agile regulator foresees changes, anticipates the risks as a result of the change and take timely action to mitigate the risks.

More information on Right Touch Regulation:

College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba
Right Touch Regulation Guidelines

Professional Standards Authority
Right Touch Regulation Guidelines



CONNECT WITH US

NWT/ NUNAVUT

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VISIT OUR WEBSITE



YUKON

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