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An Update on Your Professional Association - August 2020

#NursingMatters



BC Government Survey: "Addressing Racism: An independent investigation into Indigenous-specific discrimination in BC health care"

Recently Minister of Health, Adrian Dix appointed Mary Ellen Turpel-Lafond to lead an investigation into allegations of racism in BC healthcare. People are invited to email, call and share their stories. Ms. Turpel-Lafond has noted that anyone who participates is assured of confidentiality. Links to surveys, phone numbers and email can all be found on the [Government of BC website](#).

Black Nurses Network

NNPBC is currently working with a group of nurses who have formed the Black Nurses Network. If there are any interested nurses who wish to participate, please send an email to Kim Withers at kwithers@nnpbc.com.

NP Primary Care Clinics

On August 7th we celebrated the launch of the Axis Primary Care Clinic in Surrey BC! NNPBC in collaboration with the Province of BC, the Surrey-North Delta Division of Family Practice and Fraser Health, is pleased to have helped lead the process of conceptualizing and opening another NP primary care clinic with strong community support. It has been with the diligence and advocacy of the NP council of NNPBC and, in particular, our director of NP provincial initiatives Danielle Daigle and project manager Patti Telford whose detailed knowledge of the inner workings of NP practice within the larger health-care delivery context has been key to getting where we are today. We applaud this approach to team-based care that taps into the expertise of nurse practitioners as primary care providers. This clinic is key to ensuring families in Surrey can access timely health-care services. Congratulations! [Read more](#).

[Read about the first NP Clinic on Vancouver Island](#)

NNPBC information re: COVID-19

Nurses continue to demonstrate leadership, commitment to service, and a focus on evidence-informed best practice in an effort to help combat the spread of COVID-19, while also caring for those directly affected by the illness. Moreover, nurses bring an unwavering commitment to our first principle -- to provide safe, compassionate and ethical care. We recognize that this is a time of high anxiety and change for many people in this province and that the public is looking to nursing, as a highly trusted profession, for leadership in interpreting the evolving situation and as we move into the fall and influenza season. In order to help provide clarity, trusted references and resources, NNPBC has developed our [COVID-19 response page](#). This section is open to all nurses, irrespective of membership with NNPBC, and is updated regularly with new issues briefs posted often ([Second Wave](#) and [Immunization](#) are two new briefs). We encourage all nurses to check back frequently and to share freely with your colleagues.

Opioid Crisis Resources

In April of 2016 BC's Public Health Officer declared the opioid crisis a public health emergency. To date this crisis has claimed over 3,000 lives and with the onset of COVID-19, has only escalated. NNPBC has focused on working with partners and colleagues on key issues such as safe supply, housing, mental health services, treatment, support, harm reduction and decriminalization. Nursing is ideally positioned to provide critical support in addressing the best way forward in this crisis. To facilitate conversation and dialogue, NNPBC has created an [Opioid Crisis Resources page](#). This page is open to all nurses, irrespective of NNPBC membership and will allow for ongoing dialogue.



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Some key resources on the page include:

- [Key Messages](#)
- [Issues Brief - Stigma](#)
- [Issues Brief - Safe Supply](#)
- [Issues Brief - Peer Support Workers](#)
- [HRNA/NNPBC Joint Statement on Decriminalization](#)

We encourage all nurses to [check this page frequently](#) and to share freely with your colleagues.

Policy & Issues

In addition to our work on both COVID-19 and Opioid issues, in case you missed it, recent items posted to NNPBC policy pages include:

- [Canada's Long-term Care Crisis](#)
- [Mental Health Supports](#) - Please note we are seeking feedback on next steps on this until September 11, 2020.

We are also pleased to provide nurses with access to policy focused blogs on topics of particular interest to the nursing community. [Check out some of our recent entries.](#)

Student, new graduate and leadership programs

As part of our membership services, NNPBC has developed programs for students, new graduates and in nursing leadership. These are free to members (a \$400.00 value!) and will be offered online throughout the year.

Learn more by going to:

- [Student](#)
- [New graduate](#)
- [Leadership](#)

NNPBC Staff Profiles

NNPBC is fortunate to have an excellent staff team, each of whom bring different expertise to our table. We are a small, but mighty team. In order to give our members a chance to meet them each month we'll profile one staffer. This month, we're proud to introduce you to Brenda Ingram, Events Coordinator.

Brenda joined NNPBC as part of the amalgamation with the BC Nurse Practitioner Association (BCNPA) after a career working with various health organizations. For many years, Brenda served as BCNPA's main staff person and worked her magic in a variety of areas, not the least of which was on the NP conference. Though officially retired, Brenda continues this work with us and has expanded her reach into additional NNPBC events, and we are very fortunate to have her expertise! In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with family, taking care of her menagerie of animals and travelling. Brenda is well loved on this team for her sense of humour, her calm approach to life (even when the rest of us are not calm) and her sense of adventure and fun. [Read her profile.](#)



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Nursing Awards of Excellence

NNPBC is thrilled that we will have a chance to host the 2020 Nursing Awards of Excellence via a virtual ceremony due to COVID-19 restrictions. Nursing Awards are an excellent opportunity to honour colleagues who have demonstrated the best of nursing. NNPBC members, regardless of designation, are eligible for nomination for any of the awards offered. Nominations are open until October 16, 2020.

To learn more about the 2020 categories and nominations, [please click here](#).

Webinars

NNPBC is pleased to have started our webinar series! Stay tuned [to this page](#) as we continue to add to our series and post previous recordings.

NNPBC Advisory Tables

Thank you to everyone who expressed interest in joining our Advisory Tables on Mental Health Resources, Scope of Roles, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rural Nursing Issues. Please stay tuned as we will post information about these tables on our website soon!

NNPBC Jobs Board

We are pleased to provide members with access to our jobs board. [Check out job postings](#).

Decision Support Tools & Competencies

Earlier this year, NNPBC began hosting the [DSTs on our website](#). NNPBC welcomes feedback on the DSTs. If you have comments, please email Kim Withers, Director of Membership Services at kwithers@nnpbc.com.

Council Portals

In addition to a Board of Directors, NNPBC has four councils (one for each of the nursing designations) that help to support the Board of directors in advocating and setting strategic policy direction for their designations. Each council also has their own defined area on the website called a portal. Be sure to check out [council portals](#) to learn more about issues and work specific to your designation.

Member Perks- Perkopolis & Flight Centre

NNPBC is proud to offer our members exclusive access to various discounted products and services including theatre, hotels, attractions, movies, shopping, travel and much more, to all members through our new discount partner Perkopolis. Some of these deals are applicable to online services so even though we're all practicing physical distancing, you can still take advantage of offers for online products. We also offer deals and discounts on personal travel through our Flight Centre colleagues, and remember this option will be available when we're all able to travel more freely again.

NNPBC Ambassador Program

An [NNPBC Ambassador](#) is any current or former nurse or nursing student of any designation who wants to act as a communications link between NNPBC and your worksite, school and/or community. If you're a nurse with a passion for



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promoting the role of the professional association, a retired nurse looking to remain connected to the profession, or a student nurse with a passion for advocacy, then this is the program for you! [Join us!](#)

Speaking Request Form

NNPBC welcomes the opportunity to engage with our members! If you'd like to set up a time for a representative to come and speak to a group or class (by video link for now!), please let us know by going [to this page](#).

Issues Report Form

NNPBC believes nurses have a very good sense of the issues that impact the health and well-being of British Columbians and we want to hear about the things that are impacting you and the individuals you care for. [Learn more](#) and tell us what issues impact health and wellness in your region. As we receive issues the NNPBC staff will review them and ensure that our Councils and Board are looped into the process by way of a bi-weekly issues meeting.

Year of the Nurse & Midwife – International Council of Nurses

The [World Health Organization](#) (WHO) has declared 2020 the [Year of the Nurse & Midwife](#). As the health professionals who are closest to the community, nurses have an important role in developing new models of community-based care and in supporting local efforts to promote health and prevent disease. In response to the WHO declaration, the [International Council of Nurses](#) (ICN) is ramping up the [Nursing Now](#) campaign, which represents the largest international campaign to advance nursing practice globally in the history of our profession.

We are pleased to profile just some BC's fantastic nurses and midwives during this 'Year of the Nurse & Midwife'. [Check out some of our profiles](#) and suggest a member for inclusion today by emailing us at info@nnpbc.com.

NNPBC Member Website Login

All NNPBC members should now have access to our members only portal pages on our website. These pages, visible to members only, will provide you with program information and services tailored specifically for you, our valued membership. If you have any trouble accessing the portal, please do not hesitate to email us at info@nnpbc.com.

Tell your colleagues- NNPBC has a half-price mid-year fee!

Let your friends and colleagues who have yet to join know that NNPBC offers a mid-year fee. [Feel free to share pricing and details](#).

Connect with us online!

NNPBC has a robust social media presence and we look forward to engaging and connecting with each and every one of you on these platforms. Find us on [Twitter at @NNP_BC](#) on [Facebook at Nurses & Nurse Practitioners of BC](#) and on [Instagram @nnp_bc](#).

We want to hear from you! Perhaps you have an idea for a policy area we should be working on, a new program or service we can develop for members, or maybe you'd like to put your name forward for a future committee. Let us know by emailing us at info@nnpbc.com.