

Creighton Junior High and Auburn Drive High School.

Volunteer activities include: running the school libraries (which included - reading to students, checking books and the running of book fairs etc). Marilyn coordinates fund raising activities for class trips, chocolate bar campaigns and maintains stats on each student's accounts. She is also a Team Leader and Treasurer for the local baseball team. Marilyn is also Treasurer of the Mothers Union Group of her local Church.

As a result of her volunteer activities, Marilyn was honored by the Halifax Regional School Board by receiving the Golden Apple Award in recognition of her numerous volunteer hours.

"Volunteering is a wonderful experience, just to see the gratitude on the children's faces when they reach their individual goals through fund raising, in order to partake in trips that they may not normally otherwise have the opportunity to participate in, is a tremendous experience".

Marilyn was also honored in the Spring of 2006 by the Daily News as she was interviewed for Volunteer Week.

"Throughout my years of volunteering, I have continued to be there for my husband and two boys and I have continued to work full time, for the past 30 years, in my professional career as a Licensed Practical Nurse. My plan is to retire from my nursing profession in the near future but I will keep working on a casual basis to keep my nursing career current."

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses is pleased to congratulate Marilyn for her accomplishments, recognition and achievements both as a nurse and as an active volunteer within her community.

Professional Development

Akerley Campus

Physical Assessment of the Healthy Adult
October 28, 2006 - 8:30-4:30 P.M. for six Saturdays
Tuition \$375.00 excluding cost of book(s).

Comments for the College

Please take this opportunity to provide your feedback and/or suggestions for improvement or what you would like to hear from the College or see on the website.

To Contact Us

General Inquires - Linda
Executive Director/Registrar - Ann
Executive Assistant - Joan
Registration Services/Continuing Education - Albert
Professional Conduct Review
Co-ordinator - Sara
Professional Practice Consultant - Jylene

Committee Members Wanted

With the possibility of approval of the new proposed LPN Act, the College is seeking volunteers (LPNs) to serve on the following committees. Please call or email names to Linda at 423-8517 or email info@clpnns.ca

- Complaints Committee
- Professional Conduct Committee
- Fitness to Practice Committee
- Registration Appeal Committee
- Reinstatement Committee
- Education Committee



Fall 2006 Volume 3



The College Reporter

Message from the Executive Director

As we enter Fall 2006, each of us will have had an opportunity to reflect on both our professional practice and our summer holidays. Both of which (I hope) have been very enjoyable and have contributed an opportunity to focus on new areas of learning and to assess those areas where new learning may be necessary. We live in an ever changing health care world and licensed practical nurse graduates are entering the profession amidst this backdrop of a complex but dynamic health care system; ever increasing client acuity and technological change. The need is there for knowledgeable, skilled, experienced core professionals (such as yourself) to guide, and mentor all new nurses entering the workforce. Mentorship and leadership are vital roles in the guidance of nurses entering the workforce and key to the ongoing creation of a strong profession. As part of your professional responsibility and professional growth, I encourage you to seek opportunities to demonstrate leadership as it can be a giving and enriching experience. As health care professionals, we continue to learn throughout our professional careers and most importantly from each other.

Highlights from Board Meeting (September 29, 2006)

- Agnes MacDonald, LPN Chaired
- Update re new LPN Act – re-introduced in the House June 30, 2006
- Proposed Continuing Competency Project process and timelines discussed
- New orientation/reference handbooks for new Board members and committee members for Professional Conduct approved
- Press release for the new 4 – semester program discussed

Update Proposed LPN Act (2006)

Licensed Practical Nurses will benefit from a further revised and revamped Licensed Practical Nurses Act soon. The proposed LPN Act was re-introduced into the House of Assembly by the Honourable Minister of Health Chris D'Entremont on June 30, 2006. The new proposed Act further clarifies the scope of practice and practice of practical nursing and introduces a number of new standing committees of the College for example a Reinstatement Committee. Stay tuned for further updates and how you can be involved.

?? You Asked US ??

"I just heard that a new diploma program for licensed practical nurses started at NSCC. How will this impact on those of us currently practicing with a certificate?"

Why is it necessary to change the length and the credentials for the Practical nursing program?

The scope of practice for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) has undergone significant change in the past five years. The national competencies have expanded and as a result the curriculum outcomes offered by NSCC need to expand to meet the identified competencies. However, the program length had remained the same. The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia (CLPNNS) has implemented additional changes to the Entry-Level Competencies for Licensed Practical Nurses for 2007-2011. The School of Health and Human Services has the responsibility of preparing PN graduates to meet these entry-level competencies set by their profession. Therefore the length of the PN program had to increase to accommodate the new entry level competencies for LPNs.

During the CLPNNS review of the program in 2003 and 2004, both students and graduates expressed concerns in relation to the compressed delivery of

Length and Outcomes of Current PN Education Programs across Canada

British Columbia	52 weeks	Certificate
Alberta	68 weeks	Diploma
Saskatchewan	58 weeks	Certificate
Manitoba	61 weeks	Certificate
Ontario	75 weeks	Diploma
Quebec	60 weeks	Diploma
New Brunswick	60 weeks	Diploma (2007)
Nova Scotia	69 weeks	Diploma (2006)
Prince Edward Island	55 weeks	Diploma
Newfoundland/Labrador	54 weeks	Diploma

*Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut do not have PN programs currently running.

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MISSION

In the interests of the public, the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia, regulates the practice of Licensed Practical Nurses in the province.

VISION

A dynamically regulated profession committed to excellence.

curriculum outcomes with little time for reflection, integration or development of critical thinking skills. Both students and graduates recommended increasing the length of the program to allow time to digest the material and to have an improved sense of accomplishment. The PN students and graduates commented on their lack of time to participate in NSCC student life activities and other campus functions due to the demands of the PN program.

The decision to expand the PN program length was also made with feedback from the health care community of Nova Scotia. Employers interviewed stated that they support the role of the LPN in their agencies and would welcome an enhanced scope of practice that would meet their constantly changing health care needs. Agencies employing LPNs are requesting that the LPN take on additional responsibilities to meet these demands such as: team leader positions in long term care. At present, employers who have implemented these expanded roles have to do so by investing limited resources in the continuing education of practicing LPNs.

Will the changes impact practicing Licensed Practical Nurses?

No, these changes to the Practical Nursing Program will have no effect on currently practicing licensed practical nurses. The College's need to increase the Practical Nursing program length to four semesters and a diploma credential has been prompted by scope of practice changes for LPNs across Canada.

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia requires that all licensed practical nurses meet national and provincial competency criteria for licensure every year. These changes do not impact currently licensed practical

nurses in Nova Scotia. Licensed practical nurses are provided opportunities for continuing education through post graduate courses such as: the pharmacology and physical assessment courses. NSCC will continue to work closely with CLPNNS to ensure that continuing education opportunities for licensed practical nurses will continue to be offered through Part Time Studies and Customized Training Programs.

The "You Asked Us" column is a regular feature. If you have a question that you would like to ask CLPNNS, please send it to Ann Mann, Executive Director/Registrar, ann@clpnns.ca or Jylene Simmons, Practice Consultant, Jylene@clpnns.ca

Condolences

Our condolences are offered to the family and friends of Kathy (Thompson) Cante, RN who died tragically on September 1st while rescuing her daughter.

Kathy began her career as a Certified Nursing Assistant at the Grace Maternity Hospital after graduating from Dartmouth Regional Vocational School in November 1979. Later Kathy went on to train as a Registered Nurse and worked on a cardiac surgery Unit 7.1 at the Halifax Infirmary site of the QEII HSC.

It has been said that Kathy was a role model for her peers; a strong natural leader and extremely committed to her profession.

A trust fund for Kathy's family has been set up at Scotiabank.

Professional Conduct Decision

Suspension - Laurenda Sabourin
Dartmouth, N. S.
CLPNNS Reg. No. 9770

On 26 June 2006, the Discipline Committee of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia (the College) accepted a Settlement Agreement agreed upon by the College and Laurenda Sabourin and recommended by the Complaints Committee of the College. The Complaints Committee had previously ordered on 3 May 2006 an interim suspension of Ms. Sabourin's license to practice practical nursing, pending further disposition by the Discipline Committee.

The Settlement Agreement was advanced pursuant to Section 25 of the Licensed Practical Nurses Regulations. In the Settlement Agreement, Ms. Sabourin admitted to the following allegations as set out in the Notice of Hearing:

1. Between September 2002 to May 2004, Ms. Sabourin failed to conduct herself in a professional manner in that on a number of occasions, she used inappropriate language when speaking to patients, staff and charge nurse;
2. Between September – October 2005, Ms. Sabourin accepted employment at a long term care facility and failed to provide her employer with a copy of the Complaints Committee decision of June 2005 which constituted a requirement of that decision; and
3. Between September – October 2005, Ms. Sabourin accepted a permanent staff position at a long term care facility and accepted

that she would be working with one other staff person, a personal care worker, which was a violation of the restriction placed by the Complaints Committee on her license to practice.

Ms. Sabourin admitted to the above allegations and agreed that such allegations amount to professional misconduct.

The Settlement Agreement provides that Ms. Sabourin's license to practice practical nursing will continue to be suspended for a further three months or until such time as is necessary for her to complete, at her cost, the "Professional Behaviors" module of the Licensed Practical Nursing Program offered at NSCC.

Workshops (Offered by CLPNNS)

Infection Prevention/Pandemic Influenza
November 8, 2006, Membertou Trade & Convention Centre
Sydney, N. S.

Workshop(s) (Other)

Leadership Conference 2006
NSAHO
"Driving Organizational Culture"
November 2 & 3, 2006
Further Information & Registration
www.nsaho.ca

Chemotherapy and Side Effects
Thursday, 26 October, 2006
6 - 9 P. M., Classroom A & B Level 3
Valley Regional Hospital, Kentville

Tuesday, 7 Nov. 2006, 9 - 12 Noon,
South Shore Regional Hospital,
Bridgewater Lecture Rooms 1, 2 & 3.

For information contact: Cancer Care Nova Scotia 902 473-5106
www.cancercare.ns.ca



Coming Your Way (Telephone Survey)

In keeping with the strategic direction of the College, the College has contracted with Bristol Communications to conduct a telephone survey of members and the general public. The survey is expected to take place in November – early December 2006. A report regarding the survey will be provided in the next newsletter.

Wanted

Are there any aspiring actors/actresses out there? The College is preparing a video clip re the role and uniqueness of LPNs in practice. If you would like to assist us with this project, please contact Linda at 423-8517 or e-mail info@clpnns.ca.

Education Sessions offered by CLPNNS (Upon Request)

- Standards of Nursing Practice
- Code of Ethics
- Self Regulation
- Continuing Competency Profile
- New Legislation
- Entry Level Competencies

Each session approximately 2 hours in length (must have minimum of 10 persons confirmed for education session). For information contact Jylene Simmons at (902) 423-8517 or Jylene@clpnns.ca

"Many hearts, many minds, one goal" Cancer Care Nova Scotia has requested that we print this article, "Preventing Cervical Cancer" which is of utmost importance to all women. For a complete copy of the article contact Heidi Smeltzer, c/o Cancer Care Nova Scotia at www.cancercare.ns.ca Preventing Cervical Cancer

LPN Profile



Marilyn Penney, LPN

As stated in the Daily News in April 2006, "as the saying goes, if you want something done ask a busy person; and if you want it done right away, ask Marilyn Penney".

Marilyn graduated from the Hants Regional Vocational School in Windsor, NS in 1976 as a Certified Nursing Assistant now known as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Since graduation Marilyn has worked her entire career within the Queen Elizabeth II Health Sciences Center in the following areas: Burn Unit, Plastic Surgery & Orthopedic Surgery and is presently working in the Geriatric Unit, Family Medicine and Progressive Care on 9-Lane. Marilyn has served on several committees within her employment setting and is currently on the Workplace Enhancement Committee for 9-Lane.

She is married to husband Norm and they have two sons Mark age 18 (1st year of College) and Eric age 16 (Grade 11).

For over 20 years Marilyn has volunteered her services throughout her community, whether it is within the school system, church, auctions or sports. The three Schools in particular that Marilyn volunteers at are: Joseph Giles Elementary School, Graham