



The College Reporter

Fall 2012 Volume 3

Message from the Executive Director/ Registrar

The LPN Act in Nova Scotia regulates LPNs in NS and requires LPNs to uphold high standards in delivering safe, competent and ethical care. This includes compliance with the legislation, Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics, College Bylaws and Employer Policy and Processes. The LPN Act also requires all LPNs to attain and maintain current competencies of their legislated scope of practice, and to adopt a life long commitment to continued learning. The College links obtaining registration and renewal to the continuing competence program(s).

However, every day, practice calls from LPNs inform the College about their challenges in providing safe quality care, in our present health care system. What we hear are LPNs trying to maintain their standards of practice in environments, strongly influenced by high workloads, strained staffing resources, and a rapidly changing health care system.

Effort has been made to assist decision makers in making staff mix decisions. A staff-mix framework has been developed and supported by all three nursing regulatory groups and the continuing care group. The framework is available on our website.

Being able to discuss concepts of trust, validation, collaboration, utilization and cooperation at the practice environment level will go a long way towards a unified and committed action plan and to an overall system wide improvement. The timing is right – adopt a leadership and inspired approach to making a change in your unit today; your patients and residents will respect you for it and the practice consultant(s) here at the College are willing to provide the support you need. Check out the College website frequently for current resources and answers to commonly asked questions. www.clpnns.ca

New Staff Opportunities

The College is growing; in the new year new staff opportunities will be available. Check the website and www.careerbeacon.com for postings.

College Facilitator Program

Are you interested in gaining skill as a program facilitator or educator? Watch the website for details or email doug@clpnns.ca for more info.



Board of Directors

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*Appointed by government

The College Reporter is a quarterly Newsletter published by CLPNNS.

Your comments and suggestions to the newsletter are welcome. Please direct them to CLPNNS at info@clpnns.ca

College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Nova Scotia

Starlite Gallery
7071 Bayers Road, Suite 302
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3L 2C2

Telephone: 902-423-8517
Toll Free in NS: 1-800-718-8517
Fax: 902-425-6811
Website: www.clpnns.ca

NSCC HEALTH ASSESSMENT OF THE ADULT COURSE

REGISTRATION

Register early to ensure that you have an opportunity to participate in the course. Check NSCC website for start dates, full course details and other information: http://www.nsc.ca/learning_programs/coned/Course.aspx?l=200.

If enrolment is low for a location, the session may be cancelled. Decision to cancel are made approximately 1 week before classes begin.

- **Walk-In Registration:** At any campus of the Nova Scotia Community College.
http://www.nsc.ca/Contact_Us/Campus.asp
- **Phone Registration:** Contact Admissions:
http://www.nsc.ca/learning_programs/coned/registration.asp
Metro: 491-4911, Outside Metro: 1-866-679-6722.
Admissions Centre hours are:
Mon. - Thurs. (8:00 am to 5:00 pm), Fri. (8:00 am to 4:00 pm).

Note: Registration can only be taken by Admissions or front desk campus staff.
The Training Coordinator or instructor cannot register students.

Continuing Education registration/ refund policies: http://nsc.ca/learning_programs/coned/general.asp

COURSE FEES

Type of Fee	Amount	More Information
Tuition (no tax)	\$478.00	http://nsc.ca/learning_programs/coned/Course.aspx?l=200
College Service Fee	\$50.00	http://nsc.ca/current_students/Tuition_NewFees_2012.asp#CollegeServicesFee
Part-Time Student Assoc. Fee	Varies by campus	http://nsc.ca/admissions/cost_and_financial_aid/safees/index.asp
Textbook	\$121.00 (+ tax)	Available at the campus bookstore on the first night of class (5 – 5:30 pm). Call your local campus bookstore if you wish to purchase earlier.

TEXTBOOK

Physical Examination and Health Assessment, 1st Canadian Edition, Author: Carolyn Jarvis
ISBN: 978-1-897422-18-2

Ensure you have the correct edition. If you have questions about the book, contact the instructor:
Email: Lois.MacNeil@nsc.ca Phone: (902) 563 - 8059

PLEASE NOTE

Since 2001 The NS Department of Health and Wellness has provided an annual grant (through the NS Nursing Strategy Fund) to the College to provide assistance to LPNs taking the Health Assessment, Medications Administration and LPN Re-entry program. As of January 2013 this grant will no longer be available. No further reimbursement(s) will be available to LPNs who have not initiated their course(s) by 31 December 2012.

MANDATORY COMPETENCY UPGRADE REQUIREMENTS

If you require Medication Administration and/or Health Assessment and do not have them completed by October 31, 2013, you will not qualify for an active practicing license for 2014.

If you have completed a post-graduate Medication Administration or Health Assessment course. Please fax the certificate of completion to 902-425-6811 (if you have not already done so).



Update CLPNNS Board Meeting(s)

A regular Board Meeting took place on 27 September 2012. Highlights include:

UPDATES

- Proposed New NS Health Regulatory Network Legislation
- National Nursing Assessment Service (NNSA) for IENs
- Call for Nominations for New Board Members

APPROVED

- New Delegations & Assignment Document
- Increase in CPNRE Exam fee to \$350.00 effective January 2013
- Increase in pro-rated license fee to \$145.00 effective May 2013
- Revised CCP Profile available on website
- Change in fiscal year end to October 31 to be consistent with licensing year
- Discontinue distribution of Nursing Strategy Funds from Department of Health and Wellness effective 31 December 2012
- Multi-site 'Town Hall' meetings for members
- Staff replacement and addition of new staff.

Early Bird Got the Worm 2012 Registration Fee Reimbursed

For those LPNs who registered prior to September 23rd, one lucky winner had their 2012 registration fee reimbursed. The winner was Maria Langille, LPN District 4.

Town Hall Meetings

CLPNNS is hosting a "Town Hall" meeting in each district. Information gathered from these sessions will be extremely important to the Board. It will help the Board determine future Strategic Directions of the College. A facilitator will lead the meetings and collect the information. College staff and Board members will present at each meeting. The goals are as follows:

- To give a "face" to the College and provide members an opportunity to meet College staff
- To update the membership with respect to the role of the College
- To provide the membership a forum for questions and dialogue
- To allow for Practice Consultants to dispel any long-standing myths regarding CCP or scope of practice

The meeting dates & times will be posted on the website. <http://www.clpnns.ca/town-hall-meetings>. Check frequently for updates.



Continuing Competency Program (CCP)

Registration Renewal for 2013 is here. Each year, as part of Registration Renewal, every Licensed Practical Nurse is required to participate in the Continuing Competence Program (CCP) by building a Learning Plan. Pull out your CCP documents now and prepare your learning plan so you're ready, if selected.

1. Assess your professional nursing practice

- Through self-reflection, assess your professional practice using the Licensed Practical Nurse Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics, CCP Self-Assessment Tool, and the Competency Profile as a guide.

2. Plan your learning

- Choose a minimum of two learning objectives that you want to improve knowledge, develop skills, or enhance competence in 2013.

3. Implement your educational goals

- Set a timeline for completing your Learning Plan for 2013
- Participate in continuous learning at every opportunity.

4. Evaluate your transfer of learning and change in nursing behavior

- Self-reflect on learning you completed over 2012 and describe how it has made an impact on your nursing practice.

Need to see an example of a learning plan? Go to: <http://www.clpnns.ca/sites/default/files/Sample%20Learning%20Plan.pdf>

Need a new learning plan form? Go to: <http://www.clpnns.ca/sites/default/files/Learning%20Plan%202013.pdf>

5. Track and record learning throughout the year – It doesn't matter how!

- Document your learning:
 - complete a summary of your learning on a Record of Professional Activities
 - open a Word document file on your computer and define your learning

Moved? New email? Changed Jobs?

Update Your Profile

- Email
- Address
- Employer
- Specializations

Call/email the College, www.clpnns.ca It is the member's responsibility to ensure CLPNNS has current contact information including email address, mailing address, phone number, work place and employment status.

Board of Directors, 2013-2014

Reminder "Your Vote" is needed

Ballots for nominated individuals have been sent out to LPNs in Regions 3, 4, 5. Cast your vote and have it returned in the envelope provided by 4 p.m. November 16, 2012.

Medication Administration Program

NOTE: NSCC will be tentatively scheduling one (1) final Medication Administration Program in the Spring of 2013.

All those LPNs holding a restricted "NO Meds" license, this is your last chance to complete same prior to the mandatory competency requirements for licensure in 2014.

"You Asked Us"

Privacy and Confidentiality of Personal Health Information

Last week I worked with a nurse who "looked up" her sister-in-law's CT results. When I questioned her actions, she said it was OK to do this because they are related and her sister-in-law had asked her to get them because she has been too busy to get to the doctor's office. Is this an acceptable practice?

No. Nurses may only access the records of clients of whom they have established a current professional relationship. Accessing confidential information outside the context of a professional relationship is considered a violation of your Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics. This action may also violate employer policies and other legislation such as Nova Scotia's Personal Health Information Act, as well as the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPOP).

We are going GREEN. Only one more year of paper renewals! Beginning in 2014 (licensing year 2015) all licensing will be on-line.

NOTE: On-line Registration ends 3 p.m. on October 31, 2012 for your 2013 Licensure year.

NURSING THE FUTURE (NTF)

BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Nursing the Future was created for the purpose of supporting, providing a collegial network for, and professionally empowering the newest members of our nursing community. As such, we are devoted to the assessment, identification, evaluation, and resolution of issues that arise for new nursing graduates during their transition to professional practice in Canada.

We have a variety of resources to assist new grads in their professional journey, and in building relationships with peers and with leaders in the nursing community and the healthcare system in general.

The best time to join NTF is **NOW!** Whether you are a nursing student, a newly graduated nurse, or an established nursing practitioner, Nursing the Future has much to offer you.

The most important thing for new graduates to remember is that they are not alone. **Membership** in Nursing The Future offers support, encouragement and information to guide new nurses through their first year of nursing practice.

Go to http://nursingthefuture.ca/become_member/general_information and choose the category that is appropriate for you (website provides overview)

Save the Date:

NTF Generous Leadership: Letting Nurses Grow - 30 November 2012, Holiday Inn, Truro, NS

For Registration Form go to www.clpnns.ca/courses-programs-and-workshops