

Message from the Executive Director/Registrar

REFLECTION ON THE AGM AND PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE WORKSHOP

As we forge ahead into another busy registration period, I would like to reflect on this year's activities, including the AGM and Professional Practice Workshop. Building on such a successful workshop, we hope to use this as a springboard for new endeavours and projects. Your ideas would be extremely helpful. To hold such a successful undertaking, I would like to send a sincere thank you to staff, committee members and volunteers for such a great job!

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Important Notice

Registration Renewal Online Only

As part of our ongoing initiative to reduce the College's impact on the environment and the costs of paper based registration forms, the College has discontinued paper-based registration renewal forms, licenses and income tax receipts effective the 2015 license renewal year. **The 2015 annual renewal process will be available online only.** Verification of licensure will be available on the website, and income tax receipt(s) can be printed from the online web portal by the member. **A valid email address is required to complete the online renewal process.** Completing your renewal online is completely safe and secure.

The registration renewal online web portal opened on 01 August 2014 and will run until 1 PM on 31 October 2014 for a 2015 Active Practicing License.

Note: Initial applications are available on the website; however, they cannot be completed online. You must complete and fax or mail to CLPNNS, Attention: Registration Services.

Any questions please contact Registration Services:

Telephone: 902-423-8517

Toll Free in Nova Scotia: 1-800-718-8517

Email: info@clpnns.ca

Website: www.clpnns.ca



Citizenship and Immigration Canada
Citoyenneté et Immigration Canada

2014 International Qualification
Network (IQN) Innovation Award
Winner

Early Bird Gets the Worm

All members who register by September 25, 2014 are eligible to have their licensure fee reimbursed. Register early to get in the draw!

Email Address Required

It is a requirement for all LPNs to provide their email address to CLPNNS. You will need it to register online.

Update your profile on the College's website at www.clpnns.ca, or call/email the College. 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. However, email is the primary source of communication going forward.

Renewal 2015

*Renew by Friday
October 31, 2014 to avoid
a \$25 late fee.*



Board Meeting Update

A regular meeting of the Board took place on 22 May 2014. The Board meeting was chaired by Rosita MacNeil, LPN. The Board welcomed Anne Boutilier, LPN as a new Board member.

New Business:

- Updates regarding the Nova Scotia Regulated Health Professions and the National Nursing Assessment Services.
- Board approved new Strategic Plan for 2014 - 2016 in principle. Operational Plan to be submitted at the October Board meeting.
- Board of Director nominations for Districts 3, 4 and 5 will be sent out in early September.
- The Leadership Program for LPNs launched and applications were initiated in July 2014.
- A full 5-year approval for the NSCC PN program.
- Revised Registration Services fees approved.
- Next Board meeting October 2014.

Preceptors Honoured A Huge Thank You

CLPNNS honoured those LPNs who volunteered their services this year acting as preceptors for practical nursing students from NSCC. As one Marconi PN student stated regarding her LPN preceptor:

“My preceptor showed me phenomenal patient support. She goes above and beyond to meet the needs of all the patients and makes them feel as though they are treated with the up most respect and dignity. She was always presenting a smile and positive attitude. I had gained an exorbitant amount of knowledge while on my work term with her. I was so thrilled to see a Nurse that not only stands for all of the things that define a nurse but she also excels above and beyond those terms.”

Highlights from the AGM & LPN Professional Development Day

Friday May 23rd CLPNNS held a very successful Professional Development Day for LPNs. Teresa Bateman, LPN, Director of Professional Practice from the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta (CLPNA) was the keynote speaker who gave a very motivational talk about finding our inner leader called *Leadership: Are you on Board or Walking the Plank?* The afternoon highlighted the online LPN Leadership Program which begins September 1st. Initial registration opened July 28th for the September 1st start time.

Sandwiched in the day was the Annual General Meeting, where the delegates heard the business news from the past year, and approved the Financial Audit 2013. There were 130 LPNs in attendance, and the evaluations offered rave reviews! We are already looking to next year and hoping for the same success!



Teresa Bateman, LPN takes a selfie at the Professional Development Day

Online Leadership Course

Registration for the CLPNNS Online Leadership Course opened on 28 July 2014. Visit our website for more information www.clpnns.ca.

Any questions please contact Jylene Simmons at jylene@clpnns.ca.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I work in a clinic. Some of the clients come from other provinces and are followed-up by telephone. Can I provide telephone advice or follow-up for a client who lives in another province if I do not have license to work in that province?

You can provide telephone follow-up/advice to client who lives outside Nova Scotia in the following context:

1. The client was initially assessed in person in Nova Scotia by a care provider with the necessary knowledge, skills, judgment and authority to initiate the plan of care;
2. The client has a well-established plan of care and is responding to the plan as expected;
3. You have the necessary knowledge, skill and judgment to engage in these practices;
4. The employer has sufficient processes in place (human, reference, policy) to support you, and;
5. The client currently lives in a Canadian province or territory.

Each LPN is provided liability insurance through Lloyd Sudd Insurance Brokers as part of their annual licensure. The liability coverage is only valid in Canada. As such the College advises against providing telephone advice to clients; who do not permanently reside in a Canadian province or territory or; resides in Canada but is temporarily outside the country (such as on vacation).

Can LPNs take ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support)?

LPNs can 'audit' the ACLS course. This means they can attend education sessions, participate in some of the Code simulation (Airway management, CPR and Recorder Role), however they are not eligible to write the final exam. LPNs, employers and ACLS instructors should be aware that attendance of an ACLS course is primarily for information purposes only does not expand the professional scope of practice of the LPN. LPNs are not authorized to assume the role of code leader, administer direct IV push medications or interpret EKG rhythms in emergent situations because of the high degree of client complexity and unpredictability. Given the gravity of the situation, it is not appropriate for the LPN to engage in any of these skills even under the direct supervision of another care provider. The PN program does not provide an in-depth foundation in the management of emergent situations. ACLS information (although good information) in absence of a comprehensive baseline understanding of critical situations, is simply insufficient to support the LPN to engage in these skills in the emergent context.

I have heard that Canada's new Anti-Spam Legislation came into effect on July 1, 2014. Will this impact on the College's efforts to keep members informed?

No. The Anti-Spam legislation will have no impact on our ability to keep members informed. This new legislation is focused on the reduction of Commercially-based Electronic Messages, or emails that are soliciting services or money from recipients. As regulators, we are not soliciting services, but rather providing members with information that is specific to their profession. We are obligated to ensure that LPNs in Nova Scotia have access to the most current and up to date practice related information. Email is the College's primary mode of communication with the membership.

For Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) Waiting to Write the CPNRE....

IEN & Practical Nurse Licensure – Pathway to Success

CLPNNS and NSCC are pleased to offer a free prep course to help you understand the role of a LPN in Nova Scotia and assist you in preparing for the National Exam (CPNRE).

The last workshop dates were:

18 – 19 August 2014 (CLPNNS Office) (Completed)

August 2014 (NSCC) (Completed)

The next exam writing dates are:

10 September 2014

14 January 2015

20 May 2015

Funding to support this initiative is through the Labour Market Agreement, Nova Scotia Department of Immigration.

For particulars contact Linda Robichaud at 1-902-423-9280 or linda@clpnns.ca.

CLPNNS Awards of Excellence



Sylvia Prouty
*Lifetime
Achievement Award*

Sylvia Prouty graduated from the Bridgewater Vocational School 38 years ago, throughout her career she has worked at St. Martha's Hospital in Antigonish, with Up-John and also Northwood. Sylvia began working at the Veteran's Memorial Hospital in 1991 where she continues to work today.

Sylvia's nominator said: "I have been honoured to have had the opportunity to learn from Sylvia since 1992, and I have looked to her as a role model and what I wanted to be as a licensed practical nurse. Sylvia is an example of dedication and commitment to patient advocacy, delivering personalized care and enabling others to do the same. She is an advocate for her patients, their families and a role model to her colleagues."



Debi Platt
*Excellence in
Practice Award*

Debi has been an LPN for 41 years and has worked at the Nova Scotia Rehab Centre for over 25 years. Debi's nominator said: "Debi is a committed team member, and a lifelong learner. Debi sees the positive side of new education and is able to see how patient safety will be impacted, and is always a great champion to move new initiatives forward. Debi is a role model for all staff. She has wealth of nursing knowledge and we rely on her to share her knowledge as a preceptor. Debi exudes a professional demeanour and is compassionate and respectful when interacting with staff, patients, and family. Kindness is one of Debi's greatest attributes."



Coralie Comeau
*Excellence in
Practice Award*

Coralie works at the Yarmouth Regional Hospital and has been an LPN for 32 years. Coralie's nominator said: "As graduated nurses working side by side, trying to gain confidence, Coralie taught me the importance of team work and dependability. As a result of her dedication to her patients and her assessment skills, I depended on her instinct and intuition, which assisted me in my role as a new RN. Her high regards for being a member of the health care team became apparent through my interactions with her. I realized that RNs and LPNs relied upon each other to provide patients with care in a safe and competent manner. As I teach Dalhousie students today, I remind them of the importance of the LPN role as it relates to their own practice. My early collaboration with Coralie, who held the standards of her profession in such high esteem, has continued to impact my professional practice today."

Program Review Team Experience Reflection

By: Kathy Keans, LPN

In June 2012, I graduated with honours from the Practical Nursing Program at NSCC. I have since been working as a licensed practical nurse at the IWK Health Centre and the Dartmouth General Hospital.

Last fall, I was delighted to receive an email/ phone call from Jylene Simmons. Jylene was the first LPN I had encountered while studying at NSCC. Her delivery of the role of the CLPNNS was riveting. Not only did her lecture inspire me with her knowledge and professionalism, but I also had the good fortune to practice with Jylene as my clinical instructor. I still hear her voice encouraging best practice, responsibility and passion into my practice.

Jylene offered to submit my name as a potential candidate for the Program Review Team. While obviously flattered and curious, I could not have imagined the tremendous professional gift which was being offered.

During the October meeting, I was introduced to the other team members, each of whom extended a warm and sincere welcome. I immediately entered an atmosphere of professionalism, respect, passion and determination. My role was clearly outlined as the content expert of the PNEP and I was made to feel an integral part of the team. At this meeting the critical path for review was detailed and I was left with a clear understanding of the Program Review Report process and what my involvement would be.

In February we received the self-assessment report and supporting documentation. I was dumbstruck; how could I possibly read, assimilate and provide feedback on this volume of documentation? To my aid came Ann Mann, who patiently guided me through a process for cross checking and reviewing the documents. The next two weeks were spent immersed in the submission. I came to learn more about the organizational structure and the program delivery of the PNEP by NSCC than I ever thought possible. As a recent graduate, it also provided a review of the PN program and additional exposure to the Standards of Practice, Code of Ethics and Competencies for LPNs. Upon finishing the submission, aside from notes related to suggestions and recommendations by the team, I came away with a deeper understanding and therefore respect for the PNEP and moreover the CLPNNS.

During the site visits to the Strait campus in Port Hawkesbury, we interviewed a variety of stakeholders and it was evident that they shared the CLPNNS's value in having a licensed practical nurse as part of the PRT. As a recent graduate and member of the CLPNNS, I was filled with pride.

To experience the tremendous rigor of the team and witness their individual and collective strengths was in itself an education. I was in awe of their organizational and time management skills, subject knowledge, critical thinking, commitment and attention to detail in all stages of the report compilation. To be a valued member of this team of graduate prepared registered nurses was a professional experience I will never forget. I will integrate this experience into my practice and carry with me the integrity and passion of this team and its remarkable leader.

I am tremendously grateful for the unique opportunity which has elevated my practice to a higher level.

Congratulations Are in Order!

Congratulations to all 180 Practical Nurse Graduates, from seven (7) NSCC campuses, who wrote the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Exam (CPNRE) on 21 May 2014. The overall pass rate was 94%.

Congratulations to NSCC on achieving CLPNNS Practical Nurse Program approval for five (5) years. The Board, upon recommendation from the Program Review Committee, recognizes NSCC for their high level of achievement in meeting the standards for program approval set by CLPNNS. Great job!



Board of Directors

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Appointed: CRNNS

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Rev. J. Briggins
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Fred Beaton
*Appointed by government

CLPNNS Board Elections 2015 - 2016 (two-year term)

Official notice for nominations will be sent out in September. Elections will be forthcoming in Districts 3, 4 and 5.

"Please take an interest in your profession and consider nominating someone or running for office yourself".

Stay Connected to the College

For the latest documents created to assist/support your practice visit www.clpnns.ca.

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