



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2019**

# **Annual Report 2019**

## ***Council-Chair's Report***

My second year as Council-Chair has been a busy one. The legislative change to being governed by the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) has created a lot of work in particular the work of policies and procedures to align College procedures with the Act and Regulations. I would commend the College staff and Council members for their efforts in bringing this work to fruition. There have been a number of key initiatives and efforts made in 2019 such as the Education and Research Day, the UPEI program approvals, the review of our College office space and the launch of on-line jurisprudence to name a few. Over the past year it has been a privilege to attend provincial and national meetings and various activities on behalf of the College. Some of the highlights of the past year include but are not limited to the following:

- Participation as the CRNPEI representative at the CNA Board
- Participation in the CNA AGM in Vancouver and the ICN/CNA Strategy Day with the launch of Nursing Now Canada
- Attendance at the Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNr) meeting of Executive Directors/Chief Executive Officers and Presidents/Council-Chairs in Winnipeg, MB
- Participated in several CNA Board Strategic Planning days with Venture Communications in Ottawa
- Member of the CNA Finance and Audit Committee

There are a number of exciting initiatives from CNA which I am pleased to share with PEI. CNA launched Nursing Now Canada as noted above, CNA continues to move forward in the work of welcoming LPNs and RPNs into membership, as well as launching of the Canadian Academy of Nursing and the Nightingale Fellows and the signing of the Dorothy Wyle Institute and transfer of the Canadian Executive Nurses to CNA.

This annual report is intended to provide ongoing information about the work of the College and the Council. Registrants continue to be represented on the Council of the College through a nomination to Council process.

It has been my pleasure to serve on Council and in the position of Council-Chair and I would like to thank the Council and the registrants for their support. As I leave the position in the Spring of 2020, I welcome Valerie Hughes as the incoming Council Chair and wish her all the best. Thank you for taking the time to read the Annual Report and for your interest in the work of the College.

Kind regards,



## ***CNA Update***

CNA continued in 2019 to be a powerful, unified voice for Canada's registered nurses. The CNA, of which all PEI RNs and NPs were members in 2019, represents registered nurses from 10 provincial and territorial nursing associations and colleges, independent registered nurse members from Ontario and Quebec and retired registered nurses from across the country. CNA advances the practice and profession of nursing to improve health outcomes and strengthen Canada's publicly funded, not-for-profit health system.

CNA continues to provide specialty exams and certification to Canadian RNs, with an expansion of that program into other countries and other nursing disciplines on the horizon.

The Council-Chair of CRNPEI, Robin Laird, was appointed to the Board of CNA at the Biennium in Ottawa in June 2018 and she has continued in that capacity as well as being appointed as a member of the CNA Audit and Finance Committee. CNA officially launched Nursing Now Canada in Vancouver in June 2019.

## ***CNPS Update***

CNPS continues to provide liability protection to all members of CRNPEI. CRNPEI is represented on the Board of CNPS by Marilyn Barrett, who was elected President in 2019.

## ***Chief Executive Director's Report***

This past year has been a busy one with the ongoing work of transitioning in the Regulated Health Professions Act and the new Regulations and creating policy and practice directives (see below) that support the work outlined in the Act and Regulations. 2019 represented a year of getting down to the work of integrating the requirements within the Act into College work processes and working to identify areas which required amendments. There were a number of amendments made by government to address items identified by CRNPEI.

This year was fairly stable in relation to staffing. All the staff had remained in their positions, with the addition of a Coordinator of Nursing Practice Position from June to October. This position remained vacant for the remainder of 2019.

One of the highlights of 2019 was the Education and Research Conference which was held on October 16<sup>th</sup> and was a collaboration with UPEI and Health PEI. CRNPEI took responsibility for the scheduling, booking guest speakers, venue, brochure and sponsorship letters. The event was sponsored by Cooke Insurance Group. Students at UPEI were sponsored by UPEI to attend. The keynote speaker was Dr. Sally Thorne, and the additional guest speakers were Mike Villeneuve, ED of CNA and Chantal Leonard, CEO of CNPS. 162 people attended, 75 students and 87 RNs and NPs.

CRNPEI had a 2<sup>nd</sup> year Accelerated UPEI student for the Population Health Course in the Fall of 2019. This was a very successful venture with the student completing a

Practice Directive document as her project. In addition, CRNPEI initiated a CRNPEI UPEI Student Liaison committee in 2019 with a meeting in November and plans to continue in 2020. There is a student representative from each year of both the undergraduate degree program and the master's degree program both thesis and NP streams.

The on-line Continuing Competence Program became a requirement for registration in 2019. All registrations in the renewal period were completed with a 2019 CCP worksheet attached. An on-line jurisprudence exam was also implemented in 2019, which has been taken by all new applicants and anyone reinstating who has not worked since July 2018.

CRNPEI recommended approval of the UPEI Undergraduate Nursing program to the Minister of Health and Wellness for the period of June 14, 2019 to June 30, 2025. CRNPEI provided Council requirements for the UPEI Masters Nursing – NP stream program in February 2019, requirements which must be met before another cohort of students are admitted to the program.

The College staff prepared and distributed electronic newsletters throughout the year, 11 regular newsletters and one special edition Remembrance newsletter.

The College received monies from the estate of Dr. Vera Dewar to administer a scholarship in her name. The application process was identified in 2019.

### ***Policy and Publication Development***

The current version of the Bylaws with some revisions were updated by Council with a new version date of 2019-12-17. The following edits were made to the Bylaws in 2019:

#### **Additions**

12.1.7 “A fee for verification of current or past registration, *examination results or transcripts from former schools of nursing* in PEI is required to be paid at the time of the request.”

#### **Amendments**

13.1.2 to read “May” instead of “April”

#### **Deletions**

13.1.3 and 13.1.4

14.3 remove “mailed to non-email subscribers”

There were five internal policies created in 2019 to guide the work of Council and staff.

The following member policies and practice directives were also created in 2019:

Continuing Competence Program  
Discipline Decision Publication  
Discipline Hearing Public Attendance Policy  
Dr. Vera Dewar Scholarship Policy  
Jurisprudence Exam Policy  
Medical Directive Policy  
NP CDS Notification Policy  
Medical Directives Policy  
Supervision Policy  
Practice Directive - Medication Administration  
Practice Directive - Telehealth Nursing Practice  
Practice Directive – Investigational and Special Access Program Medications

The following publications were updated:  
*Nurse Practitioner Standards for Practice*  
*Entry Level Competences for Registered Nurses*

The following pamphlets were created to provide information to members: *What I should know when there is a Complaint about my Practice* (January 2019) and *Duty to Report Practice Issues* (February 2019).

### ***Provincial Tour***

The Coordinator of Nursing Practice completed a provincial tour to visit RNs and NPs in their workplaces, to talk to them about the Continuing Competence Program and to provide an opportunity for RNs to meet College staff. These visits began in July and continued until October. Thirty-one visits were completed in Acute Care, Health PEI and Private LTC, Community, Home Care, Primary Care, Mental Health and Addictions, Government, including Corrections, UPEI, NP Association, DVA and First Nations Health Centres. CRNPEI directly interacted with 308 RNs and management from Alberton to Souris.

### ***Website***

The following data is available to provide details about the website activity. For the period January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019, there were 41,118 sessions on the website and increase of 9,054 sessions over 2018, an increase of 28.2% usage. The total number of users were 20,602 up by 11.4%. Pages per session were 2.51, a reduction of 10.9%, a possible reflection of the increased ease of reaching a target page. The most frequently visited pages were np directory, registration/renewal, and registration/continuing competence. The highest traffic period was August 29<sup>th</sup> to September 28<sup>th</sup>, a reflection of the renewal period. There were also 20,114 new users, an increase of 14.0%.

### ***Registrar's Report***

## ***Registration***

The registration numbers for Registered Nurses in 2019 represent a slight decrease over 2018, of 9. This number reflects a substantial increase in registrants working for health care organizations based outside PEI but providing nursing services to clients in PEI balanced against an increase in the number of retirements. There has been an increase in registrations each year since 2015 after a decline from 2014 to 2015. The number of Nurse Practitioners has increased since 2016 after a slight decrease from 2015 to 2016, with an increase by 10 from 2017 to 2018 and an increase by 8 from 2018 to 2019. The addition of new classes of registration in 2018 are reflected in the chart below. The Associate class of registration was eliminated by the RHPA.

| NUMBER OF REGISTRANTS           | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 |
|---------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Registered Nurse General Class  | 1800 | 1809 | 1769 | 1736 | 1710 | 1720 |
| Registered Nurse Extended Class | 48   | 40   | 30   | 23   | 26   | 18   |
| RN Special Class                | 1    | 2    | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| RNEC Special Class              | 0    | 0    | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| RN Graduate Class               | 4    | 0    | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| RNEC Graduate Class             | 1    | 1    | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  | N/A  |
| Associate                       | N/A  | N/A  | 20   | 25   | 31   | 48   |
| TOTAL                           | 1854 | 1852 | 1819 | 1784 | 1767 | 1786 |

## ***Discipline***

At the beginning of 2019 there were seven complaints in various stages of discipline. There were nine new complaint submissions in 2019 and five of those complaint submissions remained incomplete at the end of 2019. There was a total of seven complaints at various stages of discipline at the end of 2019.

In 2019, there were seven days on which Hearing Committee meetings were held and eight days on which Investigation Committee meetings were held. The number of investigation reports that were completed in 2019 was two.

There were six registrants with conditions on their registrations in 2019, five of which were continuing at the end of 2019.

There were five publications of discipline posted on the College website and the publication of two upcoming hearings, both of which remained on the website at the end of 2019.

## ***Committee Reports***

### ***Nurse Practitioner Advisory Committee***

The NP Advisory Committee met in October of 2019 with 5 NPs, the Coordinator of Regulatory Services and the CEO in attendance.

### ***Executive Committee***

The Executive Committee consisted of Robin Laird, Council Chair, Valerie Hughes, Council Chair Elect and Thelma Johnston, Public Representative. The Executive Committee met three times in 2019 for the purpose of proposing an agenda for the Council meetings.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sheila J. Marchant-Short".

Dr. Sheila Marchant-Short, RN  
Chief Executive Officer and Registrar