

ARNBC To Take On Important Services for Nurses

Since 2010 the Association of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (ARNBC) has been focused on developing a strong, sustainable, professional association that can bring a unique nursing perspective to policy issues and professional matters that impact nursing practice, health and health care in British Columbia. ARNBC has become B.C.'s professional association for registered nurses and nurse practitioners building on achievements of the former Registered Nurses Association of BC (RNABC) to build a strong, unified profession. Today, we have an important update on our work to renew and revitalize the services and programs of a professional association for BC nurses.

Over the past three years of rebuilding a provincial nursing association, ARNBC's Board and staff have been committed to identifying the necessary requirements of an Association through consultation with B.C. nurses. This Association is working hard to bring the voice of B.C.'s registered nurses and nurse practitioners to local, provincial, national and global networks that are also committed to supporting nurses' professional practice and the role of nurses in health policy. ARNBC aims to complement other provincial nursing organizations to contribute to strong health and social policy at the provincial level.

Following the [recent announcement](#) by CRNBC that the organization will provide a grant to ARNBC, the Association is pleased to explore opportunities for a gradual transition of some programs from CRNBC. Services that are currently out of the scope of CRNBC's public interest mandate will be the highest priority during the next 18 months. Some examples of where we will focus our efforts in future include:

- Professional practice development (e.g., linkages to best practice guidelines and support of networking for Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) certification);
- Practice advice and counsel (e.g., consultation on mentoring strategies, and advice on ethical practice issues)
- Support for specialty groups and nursing networks (e.g., ARNBC's Network Leads Program and the BC Network of Nursing Specialty Groups); and
- Promotion of the nursing profession (e.g., the upcoming CNA *RN* campaign).

ARNBC is proud to have reached this important step in the evolution of a provincial nursing association. We look forward to working with B.C. nurses to develop a vital Association that will strengthen and advance our profession, as well as improve the health and well-being of British Columbians. ARNBC, along with CRNBC, will continue to provide regular updates to nurses on our collaboration, and we welcome the thoughts, questions and comments of all B.C. nurses who have an interest in working with us to make ARNBC a strong and innovative professional association.