



ARNBC Statement on Ebola Preparedness

The Association of Registered Nurses of BC (ARNBC) acknowledges that the rise of Ebola around the world is causing concern for nurses, their families and all British Columbians. The risk of Ebola spreading in Canada continues to be low, and there have been no confirmed cases. ARNBC remains vigilant in watching the progression of Ebola, and will continue to provide information and updates if the situation changes.

Although Ebola has not been detected in Canada, two nurses in Texas have tested positive for the virus after caring for a patient who arrived from Africa with Ebola. This has understandably alarmed nurses who are concerned about ensuring proper protection for themselves and their patients. In light of this concern, Dr. Perry Kendall has acknowledged more must be done to train and prepare healthcare workers and will co-chair a committee to review protocols and coordinate efforts by the health authorities to ensure B.C. healthcare workers are prepared.

ARNBC is committed to working with health authorities and provincial leadership around this important issue and will use our resources and extensive networks to provide nurses with current information, best practices and materials that will help them understand the virus and how to protect themselves. Please visit www.arnbc.ca/news/ebola-awareness/ to view links to fact sheets, background information, best practices, and trends about Ebola.

Sincerely,

Julie Fraser RN

ARNBC President