



Professional Education Chair

Annual Conference

Last year's conference in Vancouver was another success with over 600 delegates registered. A multidisciplinary pre-conference workshop on heart failure was well attended and received excellent feedback. Our plenary speakers, Patricia Rodney and Michael Villeneuve provided thought provoking insight into ethical and professional issues we face as nurses in our daily work and as we craft the future of nursing. Our health promotion session also proved quite a hit with Martin Collis' humorous and motivational talk.

The role of National Conference Chair no longer falls under the professional education portfolio. I was privileged to work with a great Executive, Board and Local Planning Committees during my term as Chair and certainly learned a great deal from my involvement in planning the last two conferences. However, we are very fortunate to have Sandra Matheson, a capable and experienced representative, in this inaugural role.

Provincial Initiatives

Our provincial Professional Education Chairs continue to provide high quality ongoing education to nurses across the country utilizing videoconferencing to reach remote areas.

Web-based Education

Ongoing CCCN website development at provincial and national levels allows users to access links to national societies and the latest evidence-based guidelines. Charlene Kennett, our Administrative Assistant, is to be congratulated for her efforts in updating the website and utilizing technology to keep our membership informed especially at conference time. We have been investigating partnering with private industry to provide web-based education that would be particularly helpful for obtaining certification. Cost is often prohibitive as we are a non-profit organization, so we continue to search for solutions within existing resources.

Cardiovascular Standards

Our standards are due for review. A group of individuals from across the country have volunteered their thoughts on our standards. Preliminary feedback from the Board at the February meeting favours an outcomes-focused approach. I had hoped to have the review completed by spring 2007, but this will be ongoing.

Access to Care

CCCN was invited by the CCS to write a nursing commentary on the access to care issue. I was fortunate to participate in the working group with other Board members and CCCN members across the country to respond with a nursing perspective and solutions to this challenging issue.

Certification

Following the April 2007 exam administration and renewal deadline date, the number of CNA certified cardiovascular nurses is: 800. There are 13,995 CNA Certified nurses in all 17 nursing specialty areas as of Sept, 2006.

Clinical Columns

This year CJCN featured articles on neurocognitive dysfunction and the neuroprotective effects of erythropoietin post cardiac surgery and endocarditis.

Respectfully submitted,

Natalie Nichols