



REGISTERED NURSES NETWORK OF BC  
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[www.nursing.ubc.ca/scholarship/RNNetwork](http://www.nursing.ubc.ca/scholarship/RNNetwork)

April 15, 2010

## Update # 5 on RN Network Progress

Greetings. In keeping with our commitment to send out regular updates, the Steering Committee of the RN Network would like to use this opportunity to apprise you of some important news about proposed changes in CRNBC's relationship with CNA.

On Saturday, April 10, 2010 the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia (CRNBC) Board voted to "initiate a measured and managed withdrawal from CNA as a jurisdictional member. We have posted a copy of a letter from CRNBC's Board Chair Val Cartmel and Registrar/CEO Laurel Brunke on the RN Network website <http://www.nursing.ubc.ca/scholarship/rnnetwork/> regarding the decision. This letter, together with the report summarizing the policy and legal review and the stakeholder consultation can also be found on their website: [www.crnbc.ca](http://www.crnbc.ca)

These changes will very likely significantly affect the scope and pace of our RN Network activities, so we wanted to update all of you of this decision right away. There will be additional information about this offered at our planned May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting by both CRNBC and CNA, but in the meanwhile we wanted to ensure that you were aware and had time to consider this information before then.

The Board and Staff of CRNBC know that this decision will be of concern to registered nurses in British Columbia. They are also aware that with these changes B.C. registered nurses now have even fewer opportunities to become involved in health care planning and policy development at both the provincial or federal levels.

As you know, the RN Network was formed because of concerns about the gap created at the provincial level by changes that occurred when CRNBC was created. Acting on this concern, the Network Steering Committee submitted a funding proposal to CRNBC to secure support for the creation and implementation of a business plan to establish a new professional association that would take on the "association" functions that were formerly part of the RNABC mandate. With the CRNBC decision to sever their relationship with CNA, this new association could potentially also become BC's link to C.N.A. We are happy to tell you that at the April 10<sup>th</sup> meeting the CRNBC Board considered this proposal and agreed to support it by providing one-time funding to the RN Network of BC to undertake this work.

So - immediately following the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will be forming an inaugural Board and moving quickly to incorporate a non-profit society that will hopefully become the foundation upon which to build a new BC RN association. As this new organization forms there will be

much work to be done. You will all be asked to advise and help in tangible ways in the development of the organization and its work, including through committee work and facilitating consultation. .

Meanwhile, if you are eager to get involved right away, we still need help in the logistics of hosting our May 19th meeting (doors, facilities, registration and that sort of thing) so do let us know if you want to pitch in by letting Paddy Rodney know at [Paddy.Rodney@nursing.ubc.ca](mailto:Paddy.Rodney@nursing.ubc.ca). She will be contacting those of you who have already volunteered right away to assign tasks.

Another way you can help is to tell your colleagues and friends about this meeting and invite them to participate either by web-cast or in person. Input from nurses around the province is essential to inform our post-meeting process and decision-making.

An agenda for the meeting will be sent out to everyone in early May. We will also be sending information shortly about how to connect for the webcast--it can be done on a home computer or in a meeting where a computer is used to project for a group. Participants who are not on site will be able to submit questions via e-mail, and the whole session will be archived and made available via a website.

The RN Network is sincerely committed to communicating with and engaging RNs across BC in planning toward the creation of a new Association, beginning at the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting so we hope to see all of you there.

Meanwhile, any questions you may have concerning the RN Network should be directed to [Rebecca.Armstrong@nursing.ubc.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Armstrong@nursing.ubc.ca)

See you on May 19th!  
From all of us  
on the RN Network Steering Committee:

Heather Mass	Sally Thorne
Jo Wearing	Lynette Best
Maureen Shaw	Sharon Toohey
Paddy Rodney	

