

NURSING!

YOUR CAREER ... YOUR FUTURE

Thinking about a career? Think registered nurse! It's more than a job — it's a growing profession offering an unlimited range of choices and opportunities.



NURSES ASSOCIATION OF NEW BRUNSWICK

JOBS: THE REAL STORY

Nurses will always be needed. At some point in their life, every Canadian will require the services of a nurse. Since many nurses will soon retire, Canada needs bright young men and women to choose nursing as a career. Changes in the health care system continue to broaden the opportunities for nurses. An especially important trend is the increasing number of services that emphasize illness prevention and health promotion programs. Many of these are planned and staffed by registered nurses. Registered nurses earn salaries that compare with other professionals with a similar educational background.

Similar to doctors, law enforcement officers, and others who provide essential services, health care is offered 24 hours a days, so expect to work some nights and weekends. As in any profession, salaries vary across the country, and people make more as they gain experience and responsibility. Registered nurses with advanced education like clinical nurse specialists, nurse practitioners and university professors have a higher earning potential.

CHOICES ... LOTS!

Nursing is full of opportunities to grow, to advance, and to change your career direction. Whatever your interests — working with children, scientific procedures and high tech equipment, teaching and promoting healthy practices, developing your management skills — nursing has something for you.

Here are just a few examples:

IN THE COMMUNITY ...

You can work in health clinics, schools, wellness programs in the workplace, doctor's offices, home care, family planning clinics, poison control centers, prenatal and well-baby clinics, rehabilitation centers, sexually transmitted disease units, and AIDS hospices.

IN THE HOSPITAL ...

You can work in emergency, intensive care, operating room, post-surgery, maternity, cardiovascular (heart), oncology (cancer), psychiatry, pediatrics (children), palliative (dying people), and geriatrics (seniors).

NORTHERN NURSING ...

One of the most exciting opportunities for nurses in Canada is northern nursing. Often community health centers in Canada's north are run completely by the nurse — independent and in charge. Many Aboriginal nurses return home to help their communities; other nurses find they enjoy learning about a different culture.

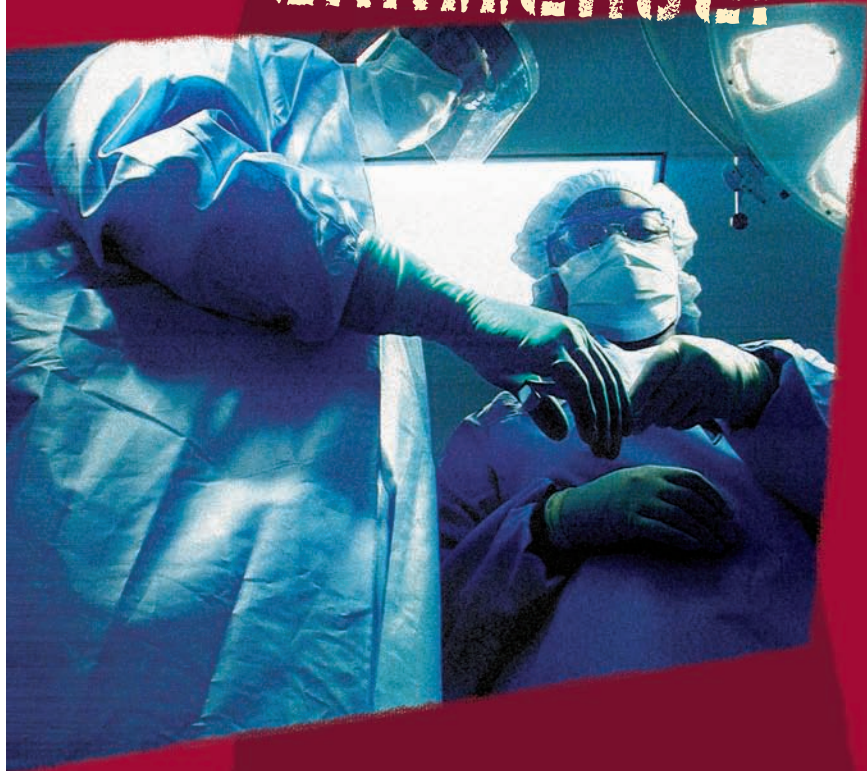
Janet, Robin, Nicole and Michael became registered nurses because they wanted to work with people in a career that offers challenges and the independence to make decisions. Nursing involves caring for the whole person — the physical, intellectual and social needs. Nurses also plan and deliver health programs for groups or communities.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN HEALTHY LIFESTYLES?



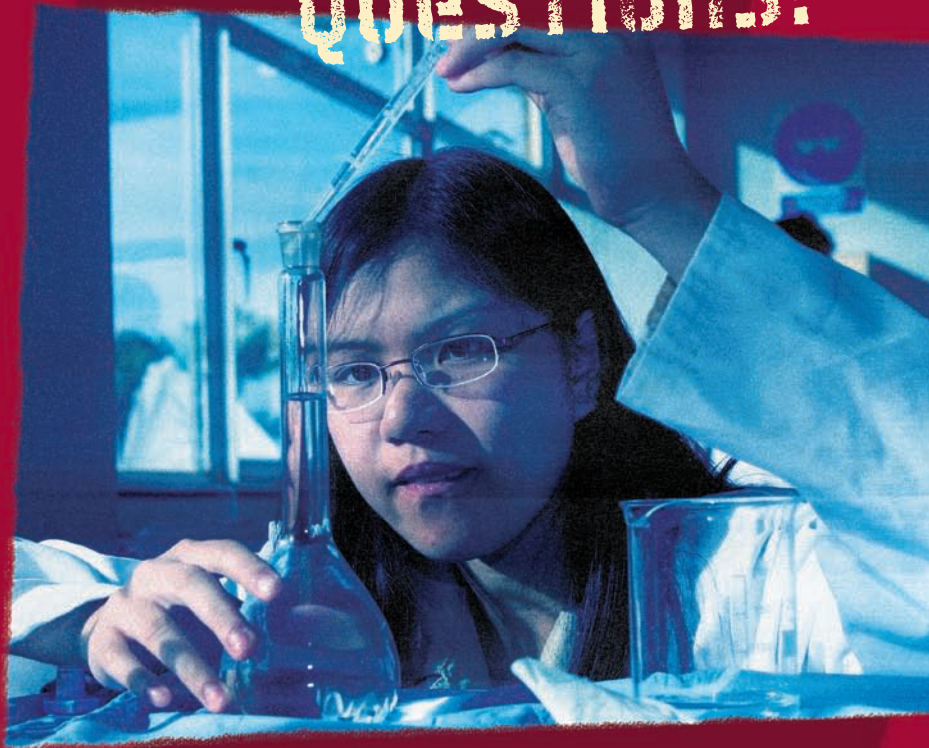
JANET HAS BEEN TALKING TO TEENAGERS ABOUT HOW TO DEAL WITH SEX AND DRUGS. “These kids have their whole lives before them and I feel it’s so important to help them now when they need it. With some groups, I get into fitness and diet, too. They really want the information and someone to talk to.”

DO YOU WANT A CHALLENGE?



So does Robin, so she works in the emergency department of a city hospital. **“WHEN PEOPLE BURST THROUGH THOSE DOORS, THEY NEED HELP, FAST, AND OUR ER TEAM GIVES IT.** I have to think on my feet to make immediate decisions about what a person needs. No other job could give me the same challenge or satisfaction.”

INTRIGUED BY HEALTH QUESTIONS?



So is Nicole, and she's finding the answers. **NICOLE IS THE HEAD OF A RESEARCH TEAM STUDYING THE CARE NEEDS OF AIDS PATIENTS.** "I used to give nursing care to people in their homes and then an AIDS patient I had motivated me to move into research. I was shocked by how little knowledge and how few resources there seemed to be to care for people like Ted, so I decided to do something about it."

MORE INTERESTED IN
HELPING PEOPLE
OVER THE **LONG TERM?**



That's what Michael wanted so he has become a head nurse at a rehabilitation center. "A lot of rehab patients start out fighting against our care — they're depressed, angry, and worried about their future. Helping them work through that is as important as their physical therapy. **IT'S AN INCREDIBLE FEELING TO HELP A PERSON GO THROUGH THE WHOLE PROCESS BACK TO HEALTH.**

Nurses are the heart of care. As a registered nurse, you can make a difference in one person's life through a one-on-one approach, and in the health of all Canadians through research and leadership.

THE CHOICES NEVER END ... CLINICAL NURSE SPECIALIST AND NURSE PRACTITIONER

The great thing about nursing is that your choices never end. With some years experience and further studies, you could branch out in almost any direction imaginable. You might decide to become a clinical nurse specialist in an area that particularly interests you or a nurse practitioner.

Expert nurses with a master's degree, like a clinical nurse specialist or nurse practitioner, provide direct care to clients and serve as role models and consultants to other practising nurses.

Nurses practitioners work in community health centres, nursing homes, emergency rooms and clinics. Clinical nurse specialists, on the other hand, use the knowledge they have acquired through specialty education to care for the elderly, cancer patients or clients undergoing dialysis, to name but a few..

Or you might decide, like Nicole, that you want to investigate current issues in health care. On the leading edge of health care discoveries, nurse researchers design studies, collect data and analyze results. Their findings contribute to the vast body of scientific knowledge that supports and improves nursing.

LEADERSHIP

All nurses are teachers, helping people to prevent illness and manage health problems. But you might want to become a nurse educator, preparing future nurses to enter practice. You could teach at a university, and research would be part of what you do.

A nurse administrator coordinates nursing services in a hospital or community health centre. Handling large budgets, supervising staff, and setting the standards for excellent care takes strength and good management skills.

THE SKY IS THE LIMIT

Any of these choices could lead you still further. But, more importantly, nursing offers you an opportunity to pursue several careers within the profession during your worklife. Nurses' ideas and opinions are sought after by the media, politicians, and national and international groups. Imagine being a consultant to Health Canada or the World Health Organization.

Or you could travel. Northern Canada is a close-to-home example, but Canadian nurses are so highly regarded that other countries, both developing and developed, actively recruit them. Your skills and knowledge could take you places. The possibilities are endless.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK

Students applying to the University of New Brunswick need a high average to be competitive. Please check with the University regarding academic requirements. Applicants should write to: The Registrar's Office, University of New Brunswick, P.O. Box 4400, Fredericton, NB E3B 5A3. Tel.: (506) 453-4864; fax.: (506) 453-5016; Web site: www.unb.ca/prospective/. Students should indicate a site preference: Fredericton, Moncton, Bathurst. Applicants to the Saint John Campus should write: The Registrar's Office, University of New Brunswick — Saint John, P.O. Box 5050, Saint John, NB E2L 4L5. Tel.: (506) 648-5670; fax.: (506) 648-5528; Web site: www.unbsj.ca.

UNIVERSITÉ DE MONCTON

Students applying to the school of nursing need a high average to be competitive. Please check with the school regarding academic requirements. Write: Université de Moncton, Campus de Moncton, Moncton NB E1A 3E9. Tel.: (506) 858-4113 or 1-800-363-8336, ext. 2; fax.: (506) 858-4544; E-mail: info@umoncton.ca; Web site: www.umcm.ca. Applicants to the Université de Moncton, Campus d'Edmundston should write: Service de l'admission, UMCE, 165 Hebert Boulevard, Edmundston, NB E3V 2S8. Tél.: (506) 737-5050 or 1-888-736-8623; fax: (506) 737-5373; E-mail: info@umce.ca; Web site: www.umce.ca. Applicants to the Université de Moncton, Campus de Shippagan should write: UMCS, 218 J.-D. Gauthier Boulevard, Shippagan, NB E8S 1P6. Tel.: (506) 336-3400 or 1-800-363-8336, option 3; fax.: (506) 336-3434; E-mail: info@umcs.ca; Web site: www.umcs.ca.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Applicants who have been out of school are given special consideration. There may also be special requirements. If you have university credits you may qualify for the advance standing program at UNB. This program is available at the Fredericton Campus for students with 60 university credits or more.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Students in nursing education programs are eligible for loans and bursaries under the Canada Student Loans Program. Please consult with University Student Services to obtain Student Loan Forms as well as their established financial aid and bursary programs.

Service organizations such as the IODE, Women's Hospital Auxiliaries, Women's Institutes, and so forth may award bursaries to local students. Additionally, financial assistance is available through the Canadian Nurses Foundation (www.canadianursesfoundation.com).



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