



NEWS RELEASE COMMUNIQUÉ

Nurses Association of New Brunswick • L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers du Nouveau-Brunswick

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PARTIES INVOLVED IN NURSING HOME DISPUTE SHOULD RETURN TO THE BARGAINING TABLE

FREDERICTON, 15 June 2005 — The Nurses Association of New Brunswick (NANB) is calling on parties involved in the nursing home contract dispute to return to the negotiating table in an effort to resolve remaining differences.

It is unfortunate that negotiations have reached this impasse when nurses have communicated their willingness to resume negotiations. The long-term care sector in New Brunswick is facing many challenges, not the least of which is insuring an adequate registered nurse workforce.

"The clients in nursing homes are fragile and vulnerable with multiple health problems. It is in the best interests of residents, families, nurses and everyone concerned if talks resume and an agreement is reached on outstanding issues," said Beth Sparks NANB president.

Nurses in New Brunswick are required by the Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses to ensure that the necessary steps are taken to safeguard the health and safety of patients in the event of a strike. NANB, the professional regulatory body for nurses in this province, supports the rights of nurses under the law to be active participants in the collective bargaining process including strike action. However, resident safety must be the first concern when planning or implementing any strike action.

The Nurses Association of New Brunswick is a professional, regulatory body representing 8600 registered nurses and nurse practitioners. NANB is responsible for advancing and maintaining the standards of nursing in the province and for governing and regulating those offering nursing care.

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For more information, or to arrange an interview, contact:
George Bergeron
Manager, Communications and Membership Services
Tel.: (506) 459-2852
or
E-mail: gbergeron@nanb.nb.ca