

## Boardroom Notes

The Board of Directors met on January 28, 2020 at the NANB Headquarters in Fredericton.

### **Engagement**

In lieu of holiday cards or purchasing media ad space for the 2019 holiday season, NANB made a community donation of \$7,500 to the Alzheimer Society New Brunswick. The donation was gratefully received highlighting this gift will assist to build capacity in the community; training for paid care providers, and hands on training for family care providers to advance and improve care for persons living with dementia in New Brunswick.

2020 has been named Year of the Nurse and Midwife. NANB is looking at a variety of measures to recognize the Year of the Nurse and Midwife using social media, through a keynote address at the Annual General Meeting and as a theme for the Fall Workshop. Stay tuned for details.

The Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) hosted a series of member engagement sessions across Canada. NANB participated in sessions through Vitalité and Horizon Health Networks as well as the New Brunswick Nursing Home Association in Moncton, Bathurst, Edmundston, and Fredericton during January 2020.

The CNA Board meeting and Biennial Convention will be held in Ottawa June 20-24, 2020. NANB has promoted incentives to send randomly selected members to the Biennial, watch for details.

### **Governance**

#### *Board of Director Nominations*

NANB was seeking nominations for Region 1 and Region 3. This was communicated to members on the website, in the fall *Info Nursing*, in regular e-bulletins, and through social media. The deadline for nominations was January 31, 2020.

#### *New Brunswick Nurses Union (NBNU)*

A meeting with the President and Executive Director of the NBNU occurred to discuss topics which included: an update on operational activities; issues around lack of health human resources; NP employment scope of practice; proposed health reform; and nursing education programs.

#### *Government of New Brunswick*

A meeting with the Minister of Health and Minister of Post-Secondary Education, Training and Labour (PETL), Deputy Ministers, Assistant Deputy Ministers as well as Senior Staff to discuss topics which included: a proposal for a private college to deliver a nursing program of which the PETL Minister requested NANB assist with a program approval; IENs and restricted licensing; the possibility of a two-year LPN to BN bridging program; changes to the assessment and bridging programs for IENs; nursing education program specialties and the entry-to-practice exam.



## **Finance**

The Board received the November 2019 year end and December 2019 financial statements which noted: an increase in CNA dues as scheduled; increase in legal fees due to an increase in Professional Conduct Review case work, as well as costs related to the Entry-to-Practice Exam.

Recommendations from the Finance Committee included approval for the 2019 Auditor's Report.

## **Regulation**

The Board approved proposed changes to Rules 1.19, 1.20, 1.21, and 1.22 changing the practice hour requirement for nurse practitioners to 900 hours over the previous three years, or 300 hours in the previous 12 months.

The Board approved a motion to consider changes to collaborating physician requirement for NPs as part of work required to update and modernize the *Nurses Act*.

## **Practice & Education**

### *CCP and Jurisprudence Module*

NANB, with the help of the Continuing Competency Program (CCP) Advisory Committee has created a new CCP program for 2020. There are plans for a new module each year to be completed for continuing competency requirements and registration. The NANB continuing competency program now includes a four-step process which includes a self-assessment, development of a learning plan, completion of a learning module, and recording learning activities from the past year of practice.

### *Piloting Nursing Program Approval Processes*

NANB is piloting two new program approval processes in 2020; one with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing and the UNB baccalaureate program; one with the College of Nurses of Ontario and the UdeM nurse practitioner program.

## **Nursing Resource Strategy**

### *LPN to RN Bridging*

The University of New Brunswick (UNB) has approached NANB for program approval for their LPN to BN bridging program (modelled after the Saint John campus program) and the Université de Moncton (UdeM) has been approved for funding for a bridging program.

### *Feasibility Study on the Role of RPNs*

NANB was approached by the Registered Psychiatric Nurse Regulators of Canada (RPNRC), and by the nursing regulatory body in Nova Scotia to determine interest in participating in a request for funding proposal that has potential for the conduct of a feasibility study regarding the role of RPNs in both New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. If funded, a provincial committee is required for oversight. NANB has reached out to potential participants for interest and availability. The proposal will be submitted in February and an update will be provided to the Board.



### *Entry to Practice Examination*

The Board of Directors held a confidential session to discuss challenges in achieving an expert independent review of the new Canadian Exam for Baccalaureate Nursing (CEBN) developed by the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN). Further work is scheduled on this important file.