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NANB Thrilled Province is Implementing Family Health Teams in New Brunswick

FREDERICTON, JUNE 12, 2014- Following almost a decade of discussion, debate and collaboration, the Nurses Association of New Brunswick (NANB) is thrilled with today's release of operational guidelines to support the implementation of Family Health Teams as a model for the delivery of Primary Health Care in New Brunswick.

"The Association has been actively participating and contributing to this transition from a traditional/single-provider care model to a Family Health Team approach for quite some time," says Darline Cogswell, President of the Nurses Association of New Brunswick. "Evidence clearly demonstrates that primary health care, team-based models implemented broadly have the greatest potential to improve not only access and support sustainability but most importantly improve health outcomes of the population."

Family Health Teams are locally driven and community-focused. They include family physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and a broad range of other health-care providers, working collaboratively to provide comprehensive, accessible and coordinated family health-care.

NANB believes that registered nurses (RNs) and nurse practitioners (NPs) have a key role to play in this transition by collaborating with other stakeholders to develop, deliver and maintain such a system.

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N E W S R E L E A S E

“We believe the contributions to the health and well-being of New Brunswickers by RNs and NPs are invaluable, and the evidence of their contribution must be considered by decision makers faced with the need to restructure our health care delivery system for the future,” says Cogswell.

New Brunswick’s RNs and NPs are well educated, highly-skilled and experienced professionals, who will contribute to a revitalized health care system that is sustainable, focused on primary health care and committed to improving the health outcomes for all citizens.

NANB remains committed with government to ensure a successful implementation of primary health care delivery models.

Furthermore, NANB believes that rigorous monitoring and evaluation processes are essential to measure the impact of Family Health Teams on health outcomes, the quality and safety of the service, and to inform continuous improvement for the benefit of all New Brunswickers.

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