



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE

BCNPA
British Columbia Nurse Practitioner Association

BCNPA is a non-profit, volunteer-run, professional organization that supports and advances the professional interests of its membership — nurse practitioners, nurse practitioner students, and nurses who have an interest in the NP practice — enabling NPs to provide accessible, efficient and effective health care that meets the highest standards of practice across the NP practice.

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President's Message

SUBMITTED BY: ROSEMARY GRAHAM

As the outgoing president I would like to express my gratitude for having been able to serve as the president of this commendable organization. I have witnessed first-hand the dedication and commitment of nurse practitioners from across this province to the establishment NP practice and I have been moved by the support of our fellow nurses, patients and colleagues as together, we navigate the changes and challenges of an evolving professional organization.

My platform, when you so graciously elected me as president, was to help BCNPA to reflect the voice of NPs in British Columbia and to help build a sense of unity amongst its members. I have towards this end, asked members what they would like from BCNPA and have met with almost all of the communities of practice so we could learn first-hand what would make this organization indispensable to you.

What did I learn? NPs want to experience the benefits of a professional association that:

- Reflects the wide distribution of NPs in BC
- Provides continuing educational opportunities.
- Provides financial advantages for members regarding insurance, continuing education and conference fees.
- Provides access to information about job opportunities
- Provides an opportunity to network with other NPs.
- Advocates for opportunities that will see NPs in leadership positions in BC healthcare.
- Provides support and advocacy for NPs experiencing challenges
- Has a culture of inclusivity so that members want to participate and support activities.
- Works with government to advance the interest of NPs in BC
- Provides a dynamic opportunity for communication and conversation in social media.

BCNPA has worked long and hard to reflect the thoughts and vision of NPs in British Columbia and together with our nursing colleagues, we can have a formidable influence on the health of British Columbians. BCNPA executive has always recognized the need for our organization to be grounded in a firm set of values and to focus on the plans and activities that will have the greatest impact on our professions and the patients we serve.

Based on the feedback we received from members at the 2012 AGM the Executive devised a framework for 5 Year Plan (Figure 1). This plan is built on the strong foundation laid by past executive teams since our inception in 2005.

Over the last year we have continued to solidifying the infrastructure of BCNPA. We recognize that key to our plan however are nurse practitioners themselves. Not only does the organization depend on the revenue generated by membership, but on the thoughts and energy that you as members contribute towards service. In 2012 we suggested a system to record and encourage volunteerism and contribution to service with BCNPA. We are putting forward a motion to have prorated and early bird fees to encourage membership registration and have made modifications to our website to make it more useful to members.

Over the last year we and have begun establishing the networks and supports that will allow us to extend our influence in the larger healthcare community. We have formed collaborative relationships with the Association of Registered Nurses of BC and the College of Registered Nurses of BC and were able to make a joint statement with the ARNBC and LPNABC addressing the recent



incentivization of healthcare for physicians in BC. We have joined the Public Health network of BC and have reached out to the First Nations Health Council of BC to discuss the role of Nurse Practitioners in First Nations Health.

In 2012 we increased our public profile. In November we launched a public awareness campaign in partnership with ARNBC and the Canadian Nurses Association. The purpose of this campaign was to raise awareness about Nurse Practitioners and their role in Canadian healthcare. Throughout the year there were numerous opportunities for NPs and their colleagues to speak about NP practice and the important role that they play in our patients lives.

And finally, as we moved forward last year it became clear that NPs needed to be seen as the experts on NP practice and advocates for the wellbeing of our patients. We wrote a letter of support and provided assistance to NPs concerned about the cuts to refugee health funding. We participated in the Gay Pride parade and the 2012 BC Wellness Show. We produced a strong statement about the role of NPs in Primary Care and are now

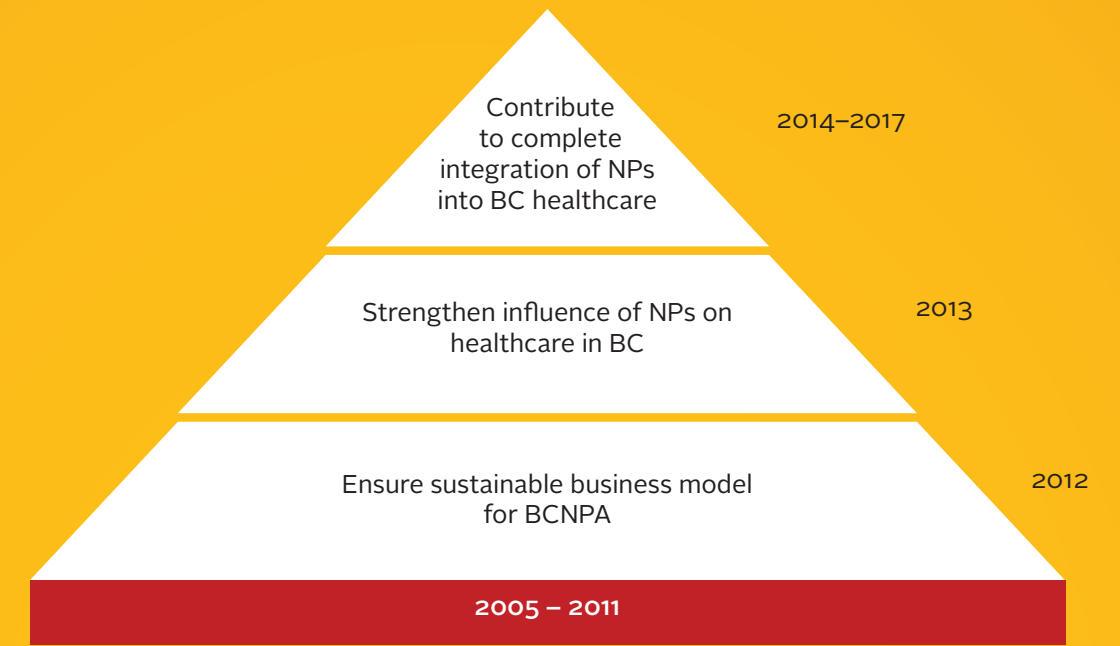
working on an equally powerful statement on NPs Collaborative practice.

BC NPs are included as key stakeholders in the formation of BC guidelines and sit as a member on the Cancer Screening Guidelines dissemination committee. BCNPA has key members sitting on the NP4BC review panel as well as the Ministry of Health's Encounter Code working group.

While many of you have expressed frustration at the slow progress of NP integration, and disappointment that we still face obstacles to practice, I encourage you to be patient. Legislative barriers are slowly coming down and public sentiment is shifting in our favour. Like the great pyramids of Egypt, enduring structures are built on strong and broad foundations. Much of the work is under the surface, but when we work together towards our common goal, each playing our unique role, BCs Nurse Practitioners will not only be an essential component of BC healthcare, but a driving force in its transformation.

Rosemary Graham
2012-13 BCNPA President

Creating positive change in the health of all British Columbians



BCNPA 5 Year Plan

2014-2017

- Advocate for long term funding options for NPs
- Create a mechanism to identify and address barriers to NP integration
- Create mechanisms to support excellence in NP practice
- Establish independent insurance from CRNBC

2013

- Develop leadership skills amongst NPs
- Seek out opportunities for NPs to be at policy tables
- Encourage NP leadership positions within organizations
- Produce position statements on key issues relevant to BC healthcare
- Increase visibility of NPs in media and at public forums

2012

- Membership
 - > Membership will generate sustainable revenue
 - > BCNPA will use the expertise of its members
 - > BCNPA will include a majority of BC NPs as members
 - > BCNPA will provide exclusive services to members
- Administration
 - > Will optimize virtual technologies
 - > Will engage experts when resources are not available from within organization
 - > Will establish collaborative relationships with stakeholders while maintaining independence
 - > Will review efficiencies annually

President Elect's Message

SUBMITTED BY: STAN MARCHUK

It's hard to believe that some 8 years ago, Nurse Practitioner legislation was introduced in British Columbia! During this time as an organization and as a collective group of NP's we have advocated, educated, and lobbied for NP integration.

I'm thankful for all the hard work that has been done by many before me, however there is much work yet to be done for us to see Nurse Practitioners fully integrated into our health system. As president-elect this past year I have had the opportunity to become acquainted with the political landscape, identifying and working through challenges and obstacles that impact our ability to practice. Personally, I find that at times I get impatient as changes don't happen as quickly as I would like them too, however persistence and perseverance are what's needed to be able to keep moving forward. Change will happen eventually, however it may not be in the time that we all want it to.

For those of you who do not know me I am a Nurse Practitioner who works in Nephrology at St. Paul's hospital caring for the hemodialysis population. Nephrology has been a practice area for me for many years, however like many in nursing I have taken a few journeys into various aspects of nursing including clinical research, leadership and clinical practice. In addition to my clinical practice I am also in an adjunct professor at the University of Victoria, providing advisement and support on issues related to NP practice and leadership.

As we move forward in our journey toward sustainable funding, and integration of Nurse Practitioners into our health care system I ask for your support and participation in building an even stronger NP community. We will soon be engaged in choosing a member of our legislative assembly (MLA) that will represent our communities in government. I encourage you to get out and speak with your MLA, tell them about your concerns and educate them about what Nurse Practitioners have to offer.

The journey ahead is faced with many challenges, ranging from educational, and political to organizational. Unity among us will serve to strengthen our resolve and our mission, vision and values. We want your ideas and participation in building a sustainable future for Nurse Practitioners.

Stan Marchuk
2013-14 BCNPA President



Secretary's Report

SUBMITTED BY: FIONA HUTCHISON

2012/2013 has again been a busy year for BCNPA. The role of the Secretary includes managing & replying to email inquiries, member updates, and providing data to executive to help support BCNPA direction. In addition I've been primarily responsible for launching and maintaining the new website as member of the website committee, see website report for more details.

Over the past year, we've seen the number of incoming emails increase, including increasing numbers of emails from the public seeking NPs and others wishing to collaborate with NPs or create NP jobs. On average this year BCNPA receives 10 emails per day but at busy times this number can increase to 15 to 20. Here's a summary of the type of email BCNPA receives:

Public Inquiries Looking for an NP:

In late spring of 2012 we received approximately 1-2 inquiries per month from the public looking for an NP. This number grew over the summer, perhaps in part due to the PR efforts of the communications committee, increased profile of NPs with NP4BC funding and the NP Now! Campaign. By October 2012 we were receive 5-7 emails a month looking for an NP. That number has steadily grown and by January & February 2013 we were receiving 20 requests per month from people hoping to find an NP to be their Primary Care Provider. This trend has continued to date. This to me is very exciting! But this also means we need to be able to provide assistance to the public regarding how to access NPs - stay tuned for more info about how members can help.

NP collaborators:

We've received frequent requests for information regarding the NP4 BC proposals, and others interested in creating NP positions or collaborating with NPs in some way. These requests come from other health care professionals including many

Physicians, along with Nurses, Massage Therapists, Midwives, Naturopaths, Chiropractors, Health Authorities and Community groups.

People & Organizations seeking information about NPs in BC:

Frequently we hear from folks who would like to know more about NPs, and NPs particularly in BC. Such as: the public or others asking how to contact NPs, or access lists of practicing NPs; Nurse Practitioners from other provinces or countries who are thinking of moving to BC; RNs who are thinking of becoming NPs; agencies inquiring about funding models or questions regarding hiring NPs. Members of the public write to ask how to volunteer with BCNPA or to share comments on their experiences with NPs or to find out more information regarding NPs.

Media Inquiries:

This year has been very busy in terms of interactivity with the media - a number of high profile events have occurred and BCNPA has been reaching out to the media and encouraging members to do the same. Given the significant media interest in NPs over the past year we have had periodic "flurries" of email regarding media inquiries and requests for BCNPA executive interviews or response. For this reason we have created a separate media officer position who can be reached at email MediaOffice@bcnpa.org.



Regular updates on clinical practice:

Clinical practice guidelines from MOH & Legislation Changes or other updates from CRNBC arrive on a regular basis. Requests to post educational event opportunities for NPs feature prominently in our mail. Research resources, & other clinical resources sent by members and other stakeholders are also received at times.

Conference & Membership updates:

You will have noted that throughout the year updates are sent periodically to inform and remind members of the conference, upcoming events, and important changes on website. In order to keep the updates in your email box to a minimum we ask that members visit the website often as it is constantly being updated with new postings.

Job & Event Advertisement:

Throughout the past year we've received a number of email requests to post jobs and events on our website. As members you are able to access job postings. Since January 2013 alone there have been approximately 22 job postings and more to come. We receive email about job postings from all Health Authorities and from other potential NP employers.

Inquiries from NP members:

Most importantly we also hear from members themselves. Members write for a variety of reasons for example, to provide important feedback to the executive - which we encourage, to ask how to reach other NPs, to find out BCNPA's position on a subject, to provide feedback regarding the website, to obtain member registration and so on.

Update on Membership 2012/2013:

As of March 2013 BCNPA had:

- 144 Nurse Practitioner Members
- 90 Student Members, and
- 12 Associate Members.

Total Membership is 246.

We look forward to continuing to grow our membership in the coming year.

I would like to thank Brenda Ingram and Lorine Scott for their significant assistance with this role throughout the year.

Finally, unfortunately due to personal reasons, I will be unable to continue with my full term as Secretary of BCNPA — the term extends until the AGM of 2014. Fortunately, Ellen Ayer has graciously agreed to take on the role of Secretary — and so please join me in welcoming Ellen to the executive team.

Member Profile

Ginny Hind, BSN, MN, NP (F) Fraser Health Authority



It is hard to believe I've been an NP for 6.5 years as the time has passed far too quickly! After my first experience as an NP at a seniors' primary care clinic in Victoria, I moved to White Rock to be closer to family. I

have 4 grown children and a close extended family that I connect with regularly.

Since joining Fraser Health, I spent 10 months working in a GP family practice in Langley covering a maternity leave for another NP. It was through this experience that my love for family practice was reinforced. Since then, I've been providing primary care to urban Aboriginal children, youth, families and elders without a provider at Kla-how-eya Healing Place in Surrey, B.C. The past 4 ½ years have been challenging but also very enriching both personally & professionally. I would not have traded this opportunity for the growth it has provided! In early clinic years I worked with an Aboriginal MOA who gracefully shared cultural nuances and invited me to many traditional ceremonial experiences on her home reserve. As a member of the Aboriginal Health team, I've been able to link with local Aboriginal communities and attend several cultural ceremonies & events. I was fortunate to be involved in the early growth & development of the clinic with the clinical support of a local GP & patient roster grew through service referrals from Kla-how-eya Aboriginal Centre & other Aboriginal health sources.

The primary care clinic has now outgrown its early cramped quarters in the Whalley area of Surrey and has relocated to a new primary health clinic in the Guildford area, co-located with Public Health & South Circle Aboriginal Health Team. Our clinic has recently added another NP to the team, Karen Chandra, and she will provide additional part-time outreach to other Aboriginal communities in the north/south Fraser region to improve access to this underserved population. We have also posted for a NP replacement for me as I will be starting work at the Jim Pattison Outpatient Centre in the Primary Care Clinic within the next month. It will be a new beginning for the clinic with new staff, a new environment and a new phase of growth.

I am looking forward to new opportunities at Jim Pattison Centre to better support my clients through a collaborative care delivery model and will continue to maintain my connections and passion for the Aboriginal community.

Things that I've learned in this position have been to humbly listen to my clients, allowing time for them to share their stories, develop trust with me & build shared relationships that encourage safety to share painful experiences & past injustices. A student once asked me how I could listen to so many painful personal stories and not be "in tears" constantly. I told her that by focusing on client strengths and resiliency, it is possible to collaborate with them towards empowerment & to view their futures with optimism.

Governance

2012/2013

PRESIDENT	<i>Rosemary Graham</i>
PRESIDENT-ELECT	<i>Stan Marchuk</i>
PAST PRESIDENT	<i>Lorine Scott</i>
SECRETARY	<i>Fiona Hutchison</i>
TREASURER	<i>Mark Schultz</i>
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: FRASER	<i>Carrie Murphy</i>
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: INTERIOR	<i>Natalie Manhard</i>
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: NORTH	<i>Ginny Burns</i>
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: VANCOUVER COASTAL	<i>Wendy Bowles</i>
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE: VANCOUVER ISLAND	<i>Coleen Heenan</i>
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES	<i>Alicia Hornsberger</i>
MEDIA RELATIONS OFFICER	<i>Esther Sangster-Gormley</i>

Student Report

SUBMITTED BY: ALICIA HORNSBERGER

The 2012/2013 year was exciting for NPs in British Columbia and the increasing number of NP positions throughout the province is especially encouraging for student members. Over the past year the BCNPA saw a considerable increase in student membership. Both the initiation of complementary membership for first year students and continued efforts to increase the visibility of BCNPA at BC Universities likely contributed to the high number of student members.

The executive has been working tirelessly to brainstorm ideas to promote and encourage student membership. The BCNPA executive wholeheartedly believes in the value of nurturing and supporting the new generation of NP students, as they will be instrumental advocates for the future of NP practice in British Columbia. The Executive continues to discuss new ways to attract the student cohort province-wide and engage them in social, professional and political advocacy.

As the student representative, I am excited to mention an exciting initiative that is on the horizon. There is discussion in the works to introduce a Student Advisory Committee. The committee will be composed of the elected student representative and a student member from each BC University NP program. The purpose of this committee would be to maximize engagement and representation of NP students in BC and will ultimately help to support the sustainability of the BCNPA. It is an exciting time to be a NP student.

I am looking forward to transitioning from the 'mentee' to the 'mentor' as I focus on supporting the incoming student representative. It has been an invaluable experience to have been involved and mentored by the incredible BCNPA leadership team over the past year. Thank you to everyone who supported me in taking on the student-representative position. I would also like to express thanks to NP students for their tireless energy and enthusiasm. I look forward to progressing to an active BCNPA member in the near future!

**Warm regards,
Alicia Hornsberger (nee Davey)**

Committee Reports

Communications Committee

CHAIR: NANCY WRIGHT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: WENDY BOWLES, GWYN MCINTOSH, CLARISSA TSANG (STUDENT MEMBER), SHEILA TURRIS, JENNIFER DUNLOP, TAMERA STILWELL

EXECUTIVE LIAISON: CARRIE MURPHY

Goals 2012/2013:

- 1) Support CNA NP Now campaign
- 2) Continue with BCNPA Newsletter
- 3) Continue working with Web Op Team
- 4) Public engagement
- 5) Review Terms Of Reference (TOR)

2012/2013 Key Objectives Achieved:

- NP Now campaign: the campaign wrapped up in November, and we have reviewed evaluation materials provided by CNA. Good working relationships with ARNBC and CNA were developed through the process of working together on this campaign. Since the campaign focused on Vancouver/ lower mainland, early this year the committee worked on rolling the campaign out to the rest of the province via emails to members, using CNA campaign materials, as well as a government relations document written by ARNBC.
- BCNPA Newsletter Subcommittee: The subcommittee created a timeline for production of the newsletter, which will assist with timely development/publishing of each newsletter. The Newsletter is distributed three times per year, in fall, winter and spring.
- Website – the chair and executive liaison have met with the Web Operations Team to update website content and make sure it adheres to our policies.
- Public Engagement
 - » BCNPA members marched in the Gay

Pride Parade on August 5, 2012. This was a great opportunity to highlight the role of nurse practitioner to a receptive audience, and have a lot of fun. Marchers gave out BCNPA buttons and temporary tattoos, and had bright, colorful balloons and accessories to draw attention.

» BCNPA hosted a booth at the 21st Annual Wellness Show at the Vancouver Convention Centre from 15-17 February 2013.

There were more than 250 exhibitors at this event that attracted around 30,000 health conscious visitors over the three days. This was a fantastic opportunity to showcase BCNPA and further increase public awareness of NPs in BC. We had several volunteers to help host the booth who surveyed members of the public, via a draw for a Whole Foods Gift Card, on whether they had a primary care provider. Booth volunteers also spoke with members of the public about what NPs do, and answered many questions about access. The impression of the volunteers was this was a very successful event in terms of public awareness, and that the public was interested and engaged.

» Facebook page and Twitter – up and running thanks to Rosemary Graham and other dedicated executive members.

- TOR – were reviewed and approved in light of new media policy.

Key Objectives (2012/13) in Process:

- Newsletter – the next edition of the newsletter is underway, to be published this spring. A guest editor has been confirmed for this edition and the theme is “Aboriginal / First Nations Health”.
- Website – ongoing work updating/reviewing content.
- Public Engagement
 - » Gay Pride Parade 2013: BCNPA is planning to march in the Gay Pride Parade on Sunday August 4th. Planning has begun and we need the help of all members to make this another successful event.
 - » Nurses Week 2013: committee members are trying to find BCNPA members who would be willing to be profiled in each health authority's newsletter in early May. To begin, we are seeking out timelines for publication deadlines in each newsletter, and if this idea does not come to fruition in 2013, we will at least have the groundwork initiated for this to happen in 2014.
- Media Relations – after vetting three companies, BCNPA executive has selected Monkeytree Creative to help with communications in three key areas: media, government and other stakeholder relations, and internal communications. Once Monkeytree is fully involved this will potentially change the role and function of the Communications Committee.

2012/2013 Committee Recommendations for 2013/14:

The Communications Committee recommends the Committee Chair be an elected position, due to the requirement for this person to be in direct communication with executive members regarding decisions that pertain to communications/media relations, etc.

Conference Planning Committee

CO-CHAIR: SUE PECK, BARBARA RADONS

COMMITTEE: MICHELLE BECH, KATHLEEN FYVIE, LORINE SCOTT, KARIN SIMS, NATALIE MANHARD, BARBARA FOX, CAMARA VAN BREEMEN, BRENDA INGRAM

The 2013 Conference Planning Committee is an engaged, dynamic group of NPs who really strived this year to achieve more than just planning the 2013 conference. The majority of the committee were also members of the 2012 planning committee and work began on the planning for 2013 immediately after the 2012 conference was over. The feedback and lessons learned from 2012 made the planning for 2013 seamless and while still a large amount of work, we all felt that we were able to build on the successes from the previous year. The key goals and outcomes as described below reflect this process.

Feedback from the membership has shaped the conference in many ways, but a key point we noted in the feedback was the location of the conference. In the past several years the conference has been held in the lower mainland for several reasons, not the least of which the majority of the membership resides here and the planning committees have for the most part been lower mainland NPs. The committee co-chairs put the challenge forward to other regions of the province to consider taking over the planning as we felt that future conferences would benefit from local champions. The response from the Vancouver Island group has been fantastic. We are working with the co-chairs Janice Brown and Jo Rippin to make this transition as seamless as possible. Members of the 2013 committee will provide mentorship and support in key areas such as sponsorship and negotiating with potential venues.

2012–13 KEY GOALS:

To plan a conference that would:

- Provide a high quality educational and networking opportunity for NPs and other healthcare professionals

- Promote and critically examine the integration of the NP role in our province's health-care system
- Engage key stakeholders to help move the NP role forward in this province and in Canada.
- Conference costs will be covered by the sponsorship dollars raised and delegate registration.
- No direct sponsorship of speakers by industry. All sponsorship dollars are to be unconditional grants or purchase of display tables/advertising.
- Conference will provide net revenue to support the ongoing work of the BCNPA

2012–13 KEY OBJECTIVES ACHIEVED:

- By the time this report is printed, all planning will be completed
- Templates for all conference documents (sponsorship package, call for abstracts, onsite program) are on the BCNPA office website for use by future conference planning committees
- Historical data such as conference budgets, contracts with venues/speakers, past conference programs are also available to all future committees.
- Conference revenue is estimated to be a significant contribution to funding the BCNPA but at the time of this writing we are still awaiting some final figures. A full accounting of the budget will be provided at the end of the conference.

MOVING FORWARD

Key members of the 2013 Conference Planning committee members have met with the 2014 Conference Planning committee and will provide ongoing mentorship and support as needed. There are still some “lessons learned” from the year that we feel key to pass on. We have included a list of recommendations below to assist future committees.

RECOMMENDATIONS & LESSONS LEARNED

- Consider making the conference planning committee group/co-chairs a two year term to provide for continuity ...OR...
- Identify the new committee and location early. For example the 2015 committee chairs should start looking for venues and dates in the fall of 2013 in order to announce the details at the 2014 conference
- Venue, theme and dates for the following year should be announced at current year's conference
- Sponsorship package to go out end of August/early September
- Call for abstracts September
- Finalize entire program by November/December prior to registration opening
- Open registration by early January.

Respectfully submitted
Sue Peck & Barbara Radons
Co-Chairs
2013 Conference Planning Committee

Education Committee Report

COMMITTEE CHAIR: ELLEN AYER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: PATTI CHOY, ANNE DESROSIER, ANITA DOTTS, BELINDA ANN FURLAN, CAROL GALTE, TRACY GWOZD, LEAH CHRISTOFF, KRISTI PANCHUK (MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE), NOLA WURTELE

EXECUTIVE LIAISON: COLEEN HEENAN

2012-2013 Activities

- BCNPA membership education survey results: 24 surveys returned and priority interests were journal club; CME events focusing on women's health, mental health, and endocrinology. Survey revealed requests for advanced notice of events, to have events on week day evenings, rotate locations and webinar format of events.
- Continuing education planning
- Review of abstracts for the annual BCNPA conference
- Review of journal article submissions for the BCNPA newsletter

Journal club remained on hiatus due to lack of attendance and pending further discussion on optimizing it's delivery.

Welcome to Anne Desrosiers, our student representative who joined us this year.

2013 LOOKING FORWARD:

The Education Committee is interested in providing greater access to educational events for all members. To that end, we are investigating the possibility of web platform access to record and archive educational presentations.

2012-2013 Update

During the 2012 BCNPA Conference a survey was conducted to assess the educational needs of the membership. The results were used to prioritize the objectives of the Education Committee and make plans accordingly.

Over the past year continuing education events included:

- Presentation on Polycystic ovary syndrome by Dr. Sheila Pride
- Talk on Principles of Subacute and Acute Pain Management by Dr. Hewko

Stay tuned for upcoming continuing education events on women's health.

Web Operations Team Report

TEAM MEMBERS: L.SCOTT, F.HUTCHINSON, K.SIMS, B. INGRAM, S. MARCHUK, FLIGHTDECK MEDIA (T. BROWN)

The Web Operations team is charged with creating and maintaining a web based platform that supports the BCNPA's operational and communication needs. To achieve this purpose, the team collaborates with all BCNPA committees and takes direction from the BCNPA Executive.

Work this past year centered on 5 key efforts including the launch of the new redesigned BCNPA website (www.bcnpa.org), membership record keeping, managing email traffic (info@bcnpa.org), managing and meeting executive and committee requests for uploading/posting content and looking forward to meet the emerging web needs of the association.

The launch of the new website in May 2012 created much of the work this year including ironing out the implementation glitches, migrating content and sorting out web content organization to better maximize utilization of web design features. The new site features provide better tools for maintaining accuracy of membership lists along with the ability to generate member statistics. Much work was done to ensure our member records were up to date. The WebOps Team is the group who ensures that content on the site is current and organized, on-line forms are revised and available, and posting requests are prioritized and managed. This takes a great deal of effort and time and on behalf of all BCNPA members I want to thank Fiona Hutchinson and Brenda Ingram who took on the lion's share of this important work.

Info@bcnpa.org has again seen a significant increase in e-mail traffic that includes 100's of mail each month from NP's, professional colleagues and members of the public. E-mails are responded to within 72 hours of receipt, and again I want to acknowledge the work that Fiona and Brenda perform daily on behalf of the BCNPA.

Looking forward, the WebOps team has laid the groundwork for an electronic voting platform, that will allow annual executive board elections to take place on-line in 2014 and is working to ensure our social media platform meets our needs in 2014. The team is looking forward to working with MonkeyTree Communications to put our "best social media face" forward next year.

The year has flown by, and the Web Operations Team would like to thank Flightdeck Media for their guidance in assisting the BCNPA to create a professional on-line presence and for their wisdom and the consistent willingness to work with us to meet our web needs.

**Respectfully submitted,
Lorine Scott, Chair**

Financials

SUBMITTED BY: MARK SCHULTZ, TREASURER

2012/2013 budget year saw continued development of our organizations financial abilities. Continued integration of our online payment system into our website appeared to be popular with the membership as the vast majority of our financial transactions now take place through our electronic payment system. The institution's past year of electronic bookkeeping aided the board in better understanding our financial needs and led to adoption of a more formal budgeting process based on previous year's transaction data.

The BCNPA allocated \$10,000 from the restricted fund to support and leverage the \$40,000 spent by the Canadian Nurses Association on the NP for BC media campaign.

It has been a pleasure to serve the NPs of B.C. and our organization as Treasurer.

Regards,
Mark Schultz

Note: Loen and Company has prepared our financial statements from information provided. These statements are available to members on the BCNPA website. Statements prepared represent an unaudited Notice to Reader. The current year represented is from April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013

**Current BCNPA
numbers as of
March 2013**

NURSE PRACTITIONER
MEMBERS

144

STUDENT MEMBERS

90

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

12

Member Profile

Kelvin Bei
Katie Scoular
Chaundra Willms
Tanya Petryk



**Nurse practitioners
Kelvin Bei and Chaundra
Willms**

North Island residents are gaining increased access to treatment as nurse practitioners establish relationships with patients in facilities such as First Nations community centers, the Salvation Army's Lighthouse Resource Centre, medical clinics and mental health and addiction centers.

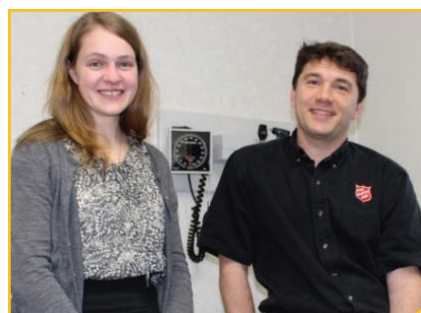
They are part of a new primary health care landscape that is being created in the North Island, where people can access a primary care provider, whether nurse practitioner or general practitioner who work collaboratively with other members of the health system.

"I spend two days a week doing outreach at the Salvation Army's resource centre," said nurse practitioner Katie Scoular. "A lot of folks who have mental health or addictions challenges use the centre to access things like food services, the extreme weather shelter or programs they offer."

Sean Junglas, Community Ministries Director at the Lighthouse Resource Centre feels very fortunate to have nurse practitioners in the region and praised their humanitarian approach. "They get to know clients on a relationship level and that's key

for a very small community. It helps to build that trust and provides a much better service overall."

"Having a nurse practitioner on site is extremely valuable to us and our clients. A lot of clients that we serve are highly marginalized."



**Nurse practitioner Katie Scoular and
Sean Junglas, Community Ministries
Director, The Salvation Army Light-
house Resource Centre.**

Scoular said it's fairly common for nurse practitioners to have unconventional practice settings.

"The idea is to reach those hard to reach patients, the ones who are marginalized and might not show up on your doorstep until things have progressed to the point they are being seen in emergency rooms. The idea is to seek them out before that and intervene sooner."

Scoular, a Master of Nursing graduate from the University of Victoria, is one of four nurse practitioners in the Mount Waddington area who are reaching out to patients providing primary care and promoting healthier choices such as quitting smoking, following proper medication regimens and practicing safe sex. Nurse practitioners are registered nurses who have achieved additional qualifications through master's degree programs.

"Nurse practitioners are playing an increasingly important role at the Vancouver Island Health Authority," said VIHA Board Chair Don Hubbard. "These dedicated health care providers are doing amazing work that is critical to serving hard to reach and vulnerable citizens. They are filling what was once a huge void in the health care system in BC."

Chaundra Willms, based in the Port Hardy Medical

Clinic and another UVic master's graduate, has been in Port Hardy as a nurse practitioner since 2008. NP Tanya Petryk, a Master in Science in Nursing- Family Nurse Practitioner graduate from University of Northern British Columbia, recently returned to work following maternity leave and has resumed her rotation of clinics in First Nations communities in the Mount Waddington area. Scoular and Kelvin Bei, a Master of Nursing-Nurse Practitioner graduate from the University of British Columbia, are the newest nurse practitioners in the region.

Willms said nurse practitioners are well-suited to meeting the health care needs of North Island residents through an interdisciplinary approach. "We've had good collaboration with physicians and other team members to provide access to primary care in an area that's typically underserved."

Petryk believes the approach of nurse practitioners is well-suited to First Nations clients. "Because of our nursing background, we really focus on relationship-building with the patient."

Bei, who moved to Port Hardy from Vancouver, is enjoying the switch to a rural setting and the North Island's natural attractions such as hiking and kayaking. He enjoys collaborating with area physicians and other health care practitioners as they make the best use of their resources.

"We share ideas back and forth and our thinking about innovative ways to provide the same level of care, or better care than centres with more ready access to resources."

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