



Creating positive change in the health of all British Columbians

Board of Directors 2015-2016

The BCNPA elected new members to its board this past June.

Welcome to the new board and continuing board members.

- Kathleen Fyvie - President
- Natasha Prodan-Bhalla - Vice President
- Karen Sims - Treasurer
- Barb Eddy - Regional Director, Vancouver Region
- Colleen Regehr - Regional Director, Interior Region
- Linda Van Pelt - Regional Director, Northern Region
- Michael Gartner - Student Representative



Continuing board members:

- Lori Verigin - Secretary
- Janice Brown - Regional Director, Vancouver Island Region
- Wendy Bowles - Regional Director, Fraser Region
- Stan Marchuk - Past President

President Introduction and Update

November already - time is flying and before we know it, it will be the end of another year! For those of you who do not know me, my name is Kathleen Fyvie; I graduated in 2005 from the UVIC NP Program after a long career in Emergency and PACU nursing. I was on the BCNPA executive board for four years, including as President in 2009-10 and was very involved in conference planning for 8 of the last 10 BCNPA conferences.

I am married to a terrific and tolerant guy who is an enthusiastic supporter of NPs. We have three delightful daughters (2 who are RNs) and two wonderful son-in-laws. I work fulltime at Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster on the Trauma Service, a NP/physician collaborative team dedicated to the care of multi-system trauma patients. Summer and early Fall are recognized as "Trauma Season", typically our busiest time of year so it has been very steady at work and exceptionally busy on my time off as well as I get up to speed on all the work that Stan and the past executive and committee members have been doing for the last few years.

Many of the board members are new this year, so there is lots of fresh energy as well as the experience and support provided by the returning members. There have been many changes since I was last on the executive board, all new faces in government, the establishment of ARNBC and the Coalition, and many more NPs now licensed in the province. Lots to take in!

The executive board held our **Strategic Planning Day** at BC Women's Hospital on September

22, 2015. It included a pre-session orientation for the new board members followed by a full and focused day-long work session. This was the first opportunity for the new board to work together face to face and with the help of facilitator Debbie Hultgren, we developed an action plan for the year that builds on work done in recent years as well as addressing current issues we face.

We are now at the stage of communicating that **Strategic Plan** to the various **committees** who are organizing. We have a strong group of committed NPs on the board this year and we collectively look forward to sharing the **opportunities for your participation** on the committees. We will be looking for your energy and assistance as we start work on the priority action items.

A stringent **annual budget** has been established by Treasurer Karen Sims and accepted by the board. **Policies and processes** are being reviewed, updated and/or rewritten to ensure consistency that aligns with current practice guidelines for non-profit organizations as well as facilitating clarity in day to day business. This is ongoing and essential work that is underway and we are making excellent progress.

We have struck an agreement with Communications expert **Debbie Hultgren of Links Communication Solutions** to review and work with us on communication priorities such as press releases and social media presence. The website is undergoing extensive review in an effort to target and fix the persistent glitches that frustrate users and to build on its capabilities so that it is more effective for the association and its audience. Stay tuned and check in often to www.bcnpa.org

In keeping with the members' wishes heard at the AGM this year, **Lorine Scott** has been invited by the executive board to assist with exploring and developing the role that a part time executive director could fill when the association is able to financially support such a necessary position. Lorine has extensive BCNPA experience as a former President and a board member. She has graciously agreed to do this in a volunteer capacity over the period of October 2015-June 2017.

Natasha, Stan and myself meet monthly with key Ministry folks from the Workforce Planning and Management Branch, Health Sector Workforce Division and bimonthly with the Deputy Ministers. These are valuable communication opportunities for both groups. Natasha, Lori Verigin and myself attend monthly meetings of the BC Coalition of Nursing Associations. Stay tuned to the website for more info coming soon on this exciting group.

I will be flying to Ottawa on November 11, 2015 to participate in a CNA sponsored meeting of the provincial representatives of the Canadian Association of Advance Practice Nurses (CAAPN) to discuss NPs with a national lens.

Please remind any of your colleagues who have not joined or have let their membership lapse that we need **every nurse practitioner in BC** to participate in advancing our profession in this province.

The BCNPA was formed by NPs for NPs. It is *our* professional association and it is crucial that we have the support and participation of the professionals we represent. Paradoxically, despite having more practicing NPs in the province than ever, our BCNPA membership numbers have significantly declined. This is a serious challenge in terms of maintaining a strong voice for Nurse Practitioners in BC and presents a perplexing dilemma for those of us who are striving to advance the integration and growth of NPs in BC. In order to sustain this momentum, our membership needs to grow along with the number of NPs in the province.

Watch for updates on our committee work and please think about what you can contribute to your professional association in terms of time or small projects. It is a great way to network and make new friends while you support your profession! For those of you who are unable to physically get involved at this time with the work of the association, please at least **join BCNPA** and support our collective work with your dollars. It is a small investment for every NP **less than 70 cents/day** to ensure that we can continue to speak for ourselves.

We want to hear from members around your success, challenges and solution-based ideas.

Please contact us through the website or your area reps or hail us down if you see us at work or social events.

Thank you for reading this and I look forward to hearing from and meeting you as the year goes on.

Warm regards,

Kathleen

Conference 2015 - Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the 2015 BCNPA Conference. A milestone event for Nurse Practitioners in BC as we turned 10 years old!

BCNPA is proud to announce our 2016 Conference - Opportunities: Health Care Leadership in Action in beautiful Kelowna, June 3-5, 2016, at the Delta Grand Okanagan Conference Centre & Resort. It is shaping up to be a fabulous educational and networking event in the setting of one of BC's famous wine regions. The Call for Abstracts is now open and you are invited to present an oral or poster presentation at our 11th Annual Conference. Visit the BCNPA website for more information - and check back for updates! Go to: www.bcnpa.org

Membership - signup and renewal

As a Nurse Practitioner, BCNPA leads the way in advocacy, continuing education, and professional development for Nurse Practitioners in the province.

Renew your BCNPA membership today. If you are a health authority employed Nurse Practitioner, please review your terms of employment as there is an opportunity for your employer to support you in becoming a member or maintaining your membership with BCNPA.

Excerpt from Health Authority PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & MEMBERSHIPS terms and conditions below:

- Approved, budgeted business-related memberships may be paid for by (Health Authority) subject to available funding and only by prior approval of the manager/director.

Laboratory Operational Committee - Expression of Interest Package

The Ministry of Health is seeking Expressions of Interest for membership on a newly created Laboratory Operational Committee. Please contact the Committee's Secretariat, Sharlene Frank at Sharlene.Frank@gov.bc.ca for further information.

Invitation for Doctor of Nursing Practice Dialogue

The following invitation is sent on behalf of Leanne Rowand, fellow Nurse Practitioner/BCNPA member. We encourage those interested to contact Leanne at: leanne.rowand@waldenu.edu.

As some of you may be aware, a number of nurse practitioners (NPs) are in the process of completing a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, others have already completed, and a growing body are interested. A DNP is a practice doctorate that prepares Advance Practice Nurses (APNs) for leadership roles at the policy and administrative levels, with potential to influence systems and organizations, contributing to healthcare reform. As I have had several requests from other NPs to share my DNP journey (i.e. in terms of program choice, clinical placement and project etc.) and have experienced some challenges and opportunities along the way, I thought perhaps there may be others who are interested in connecting and sharing their experiences as well. As such I am writing to you with an invitation to begin a DNP dialogue, with the aim to inform, support and assist aspiring NPs to follow their academic goals to the Doctorate level. This is a very important time for NPs in BC, and our colleagues are ready and asking for our experience to help them make important decisions! I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes, Leann Rowand

Practice Support

Communities of Practice

Communities of practice are a great forum for NPs to come together to share experiences, strategy and innovation. BCNPA welcomes you to connect with the Regional Director in your region to see how you get involved. Check out our contact list on the BCNPA website at: <http://bcnpa.org/contact-bcnpa/>

RACE Line

The Rapid Access to Consultative Expertise (RACE) advice line was launched at Providence Health Care/Vancouver Coastal Health on June 21, 2010. The RACE model allows Nurse Practitioners (NPs) to call one number and speak to a selection of specialists. The service is available Monday to Friday from 0800-1700. For more information on RACE go to: www.RACEconnect.ca

Liability Insurance

Over the past 2 years the BCNPA has been advocating for changes to the current insurance policy held by CRNBC/ARNBC for Nurse Practitioners. We are pleased to announce that through our advocacy work, changes have been made to liability coverage for Nurse Practitioners that provides for greater liability protection.

Commencing March 2016 the Canadian Nurses Protective Society (CNPS) will be the provider for liability protection for Nurse Practitioners. Check out the CNPS website for further information: www.cnps.ca

Ministry of Health

Stakeholder Engagement

BCNPA continues to meet with the Ministry of Health on a monthly basis, exploring how we can address barriers to practice and further integrate Nurse Practitioners into British Columbia's Health System.

Issues discussed to date:

- Rural & remote support for Nurse Practitioners
- Legislative, regulatory and policy barriers that impact NP practice
- MSP Fee code barriers that impact NP practice
- Policy review and consultation
- Funding model(s)

Please send feedback to info@bcnpa.org.

New Fee Codes

The following diagnostics have been added to list of insured MSP services that Nurse Practitioners may access for their patients.

- Renal B Scan with Doppler –(effective January 1, 2015)
- Bone Scans with flow – (effective October 1, 2014)
- GP Consultations now available to Nurse Practitioners. NP requests the opinion of a general practitioner competent to provide consultation in the area of expertise requested. See the following link for details:
www.health.gov.bc.ca/msp/infoprac/physbilling/payschedule/pdf/7-general-practice.pdf.

Legislative/Regulatory/Policy Barriers

BCNPA continues to work with the Ministry of Health and the College of Registered Nurses of BC to eliminate barriers to Nurse Practitioner practice. BCNPA will continue to work with government and the regulator to facilitate change.

- **MRI Scans**
 - *ACTION*: Requires legislative change to 2 acts (Hospital Insurance Act Regulation and Health Professions Act.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Health & CRNBC
- **BC Transit Act**
 - *ACTION*: Requires legislative change to BC Transit Act.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Health
- **Controlled Drugs & Substances**
 - *ACTION*: Requires legislative change to Health Professions Act and Pharmaceutical Services Act.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Health for legislative change and CRNBC for development of operational requirements (QA and triplicate prescription program), along with NP's meeting educational requirements
- **Employment & Assistance for Persons with Disabilities & Employment Assistance Act**
 - *ACTION*: Operationalization of changes by Min of Social Development & Social Innovation. Letter received from Deputy Minister Sheila Taylor outlines further consultation with disability communities is required before considering operationalizing this amendment.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Social Development & Social Innovation
- **Mental Health Act**
 - *ACTION*: Ministry of Health and CRNBC embarking on further consultation with stakeholders to explore how we may move forward.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Health and CRNBC
- **School Act**
 - *ACTION*: Awaiting response from government regarding operationalizing change.
 - *WHO*: Ministry of Health.
- **Do Not Resuscitate**
 - *ACTION*: Recognition of Nurse Practitioners as a provider who can make decisions with patient & family regarding DNR.
 - *WHO*: Doctors of BC (final changes have been forwarded to MoH by Doctors of BC for review/acceptance)
- **Prescribing of Post-Exposure Prophylaxis Anti-Retrovirals**
 - *ACTION*: Recognition of NP's as providers who can prescribe ARV's beyond the 5 day initiation for PEP.
 - *WHAT*: Briefing note sent to MOH, BC Center for Excellence and CRNBC advocating for change.
 - *WHO*: BCCFE, MOH and CRNBC

CRNBC

BCNPA continues to meet with the college to discuss issues that impact NP Practice. Issues discussed in the recent meeting include:

- Legislative/Regulatory/Policy barriers to practice – collaborative work between CRNBC and MOH.
- Regulatory Practice Support – what does this look like now and for the future
- NP Scope of Practice Review – CRNBC will be conducting a review of scope of practice as part of its five year review. If you wish to provide feedback to CRNBC please contact Chris Daly at CRNBC.
- NP Practice Analysis – explore findings and recommendations once available.

Check out the website!

Take time to check the BCNPA website for important updates, notices and the latest career opportunities. Recent updates include:

- Important update to BC Palliative Care Benefits
- BC Coalition of Nursing Associations (BCCNA) - Ministry of Health Response to the Forum
- BCNPA Conference 2016 - Call for Abstracts guidelines and form.

We invite your comments and questions to info@bcnpa.org.

[unsubscribe](#)