

Summer 2018

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Photo: Rachel Kirk.

It's a Wrap! #BCNPA2018 Conference

BCNPA hosted its 13th Annual Conference at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre in Nanaimo from June 7-9, 2018.

Many thanks to this year's Conference Planning Committee, conference sponsors and exhibitors, Coast Bastion Hotels, and Harbour Air for their support. Special thanks to Rachel Kirk for providing photography services over the three days.

To the volunteers who made #BCNPA2018 a fun filled learning event, thank you for your contributions and efforts.

To all #BCNPA2018 participants: we express our deepest thanks for continuing to support your professional association.

#BCNPA2019 moves north to the city of Prince George in June 2019. We hope to see you there!

Photo Highlights from #BCNPA2018



"Creating Positive Change in the Health of All British Columbians."



* Join the [BCNPA Members' Forum on Facebook](#) for more pics!



* Join the [BCNPA Members' Forum on Facebook](#) for more! What are you waiting for?



Your BCNPA Board for 2018/19

Thank you for your nominations and votes. Here is your Board for 2018/19. Visit: www.bcnpa.org/about-bcnpa/board-and-staff/ for bios.



Sue Peck, President



Fiona Hutchison, Past President



Dani Daigle, President-Elect



Tamera Stilwell, Secretary



Sandra Broughton, Treasurer



Devlin McDermitt, Student Rep.



**Michelle Sims,
Regional Director - Vancouver**



**Deborah Lowe
Regional Director - North**



**Liz Mulvaney
Regional Director - Fraser**



**Bryan Schultz
Regional Director - Island**



**Celia Evanson,
Regional Director - Interior**

**Vacant
Regional Director - PHSA**

2018 NP Awards of Excellence Recipient

Join us in congratulating **Dr. Natasha Prodan-Bhalla**, BScN, MN, NP(A), CCN(C), NCMP, DNP, the 2018 recipient of the BCNPA NP Award of Excellence.



Photo: **Natasha Prodan-Bhalla** (right) (centre) accepts her award of excellence from **Karen Sims**, (left) and **Sue Peck**, (centre).

Photo courtesy of Rachel Kirk.

BCNPA member since: 2005

Education: Doctorate of Nursing Practice, 2016 (University of Colorado); Post-Masters Family NP Certificate, 2014 (University of Massachusetts); North American Menopause Practitioner, 2014; Cardiovascular Nursing Certification, 2004 (CNA); Master of Nursing/Adult NP, 2001 (University of Toronto); Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1997 (University of Western Ontario).

Volunteer: One of the “founding” members of BCNPA and led the organization as the first President and has since stayed actively involved. On behalf of BCNPA, Natasha has engaged with CRNBC, Government, Health Authorities and many other stakeholders for the sole purpose of making the NP provider an important part of all healthcare planning.

Career Highlights:

- Adjunct professor at UBC School of Nursing and the University of Victoria, Family NP program, functions as faculty supervisor for clinical placements and for final NP program projects.
- Associate Professor (and a pioneer) at BCIT, developing and reviewing the Adult NP program curriculum in 2005. She continues to contribute to NP continuing education.
- Primary Care NP Lead, Ministry of Health, Nursing Policy Secretariat. Natasha is the first NP ever to work for the Ministry of Health in BC.
- Pioneered the NP Collaborative Practice Leader role at PHSA to support, advance and advocate for NP role.
- Lead co-author for two BCNPA papers: *Primary Care Transformations in BC: A New Model to Integrate Nurse Practitioners*, and *Specialized Services: NPs Working Collaboratively to Improve the Continuum of Care*.
- Policy work with the ARNBC, BCCNA, BCNPA, the BC Medical Quality Initiative and in supporting the formation of the NNPBC.

John and Beverley Carl Student Scholarship Recipient: Carly Derpack



BCNPA is pleased to announce the winner of the 2018 John and Beverley Carl Student Scholarship: **Carly Derpack**.

Carly started her nursing career volunteering in a primary healthcare clinic in the remote region of Mafi-Seva, Ghana. She then worked several years in the medical ward at Vancouver General Hospital. There, she learned about assessment and disease pathways, and that patients were the single most valuable tool for health promotion, early intervention and maintaining wellness.

Carly decided to specialize in Critical Care and learned the ropes of collaborating as part of an interdisciplinary team.

Currently, Carly is a student of the University of British Columbia's Primary Care Family Nurse Practitioner Master's program where she has spent the last couple of years.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the program, and learning the new role of a nurse practitioner. I'm also excited for the opportunities and new doors that have been opened. As a kid growing up, other children played with dolls and toy cars. I was

invariably found placing band aids on all things broken. My reality now is that my job helps those that are sick. I care for a living, and I absolutely love it."

Join us in congratulating Carly on her achievements to date!

BCNPA thanks the Carl Family for their generosity and continued support of the association and its student members. Their amazing contribution continues to inspire seasoned and up and coming NPs across the province!

[View more on the story behind the John and Beverley Carl Student Scholarship.](#)

Get Involved: Volunteer with a BCNPA Working Committee

BCNPA committees work on programs and projects through the membership cycle. All BCNPA members are welcome to participate.

Each committee is chaired by a volunteer member. Each committee also has at least one board member who acts as the executive liaison, whose role is to provide direction to the committee on behalf of the Board, and help resolve issues and concerns the committee may have.

The time commitment varies. In general, committees hold monthly meetings/conference calls with project work completed outside of that.

Email info@bcnpa.org to submit your contact info if interested.

Volunteer with BCNPA and Make a Difference!

Email info@bcnpa.org to submit your expression of interest.

Most committees reconvene in the Fall to start work for this membership cycle!

Conference Committee has already started working on the 2018 event: sign up now to get involved!

Communications Committee

The Communications Committee implements BCNPA's communication strategy and plan for the year. Projects may include assessing and writing the content for the BCNPA website; monitoring the functionality of the web; developing NP awareness campaigns for Nursing Week; developing BCNPA position statements; posting to BCNPA's social media; and assisting with the moderation of the Members' Forum.

Conference Committee

The Conference Committee plans, organizes, and manages all aspects of the BCNPA annual conference and Annual General Meeting (AGM), including establishing the dates, theme, and program; booking venues and speakers; securing sponsorship; and managing all administration and logistics.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is responsible for developing strategies to market BCNPA memberships, and build membership numbers. Some of the projects this team is working on include developing strategies to attract NPs to BCNPA; developing and moderating the Members' Forum; and engaging with NP students to increase their involvement with the association.

Nominations and Recognition Committee

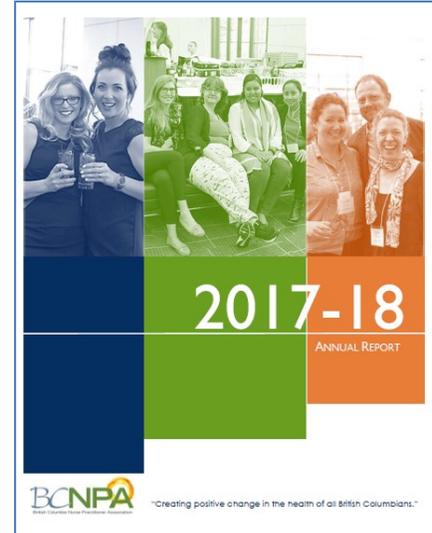
BCNPA's newest working committee, this team is responsible for overseeing the nominations and election process for board vacancies; managing the BCNPA NP Awards of Excellence Program; and managing the John and Beverley Carl Student Scholarship Program.

2017/18 Annual Report Available Online

The 2017/18 annual report is now available! The report summarizes the achievements and accomplishments from the past membership cycle, and discloses the financial status of the association.

Thank you to the volunteers who contributed content.

[View or download the annual report now.](#) Please feel free to share with others.



Legislative & Regulatory Updates

Below are the legislative and regulatory updates from April to June 2017

Be sure to check with your local NP Lead on the status of practice changes in your area.

CRNBC Board Approves Revised NP Scope Standards

The CRNBC board on June 15, 2018, approved revisions to three nurse practitioner scope of practice standards. These revised standards will come into effect July 23, 2018.

[View more details.](#)

Ministry of Health Updates Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) Forms

The Ministry of Health has introduced new and updated medical assistance in dying forms and accompanying instruction documents.

[View more information.](#)

Leadership Report & Committee Updates

Reports from the president, president-elect, regional directors, and committee chairs recapping the achievements and challenges from the past year may be found in the [2017/18 annual report](#).

The new Board of Directors will be meeting in the Summer for their annual retreat to define the priority areas for the year. Working committees reconvene in the Fall.

This segment will resume its regular format in next quarter's edition.

Other Updates

New Provincial Nursing Regulator Gets Official Name

The Minister of Health on May 8, 2018, formally approved the name of B.C.'s new nursing regulator. The BC College of Nursing Professionals will come into existence on Sept. 4, 2018.

This new college will amalgamate the three existing nursing colleges—the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC, the College of Registered Nurses of BC, and the College of Registered Psychiatric Nurses of BC—into a single regulator for all nurses in the province.

[View more information on this development.](#)

NPs Needed to Participate in Flu Vaccine Effectiveness Monitoring

The BC Centre for Disease Control's Sentinel Network (SPSN) is seeking NPs who practice in general out-patient clinics to participate in vaccine effectiveness monitoring throughout the flu season.

Influenza is a serious disease and monitoring vaccine-effectiveness is paramount to ensuring vaccine protection and improving health. We need NPs to get involved!

The Influenza and Emerging Respiratory Pathogens team at the BC Centre for Disease Control is charged with managing the Canadian Influenza Sentinel Practitioner Surveillance Network (SPSN) for influenza surveillance and vaccine-effectiveness (VE) monitoring. The Canadian SPSN is the only network in Canada to monitor how well the annually-revised influenza vaccine provides protection using community-based practitioners in four provinces of Canada, including BC. Each year,

findings are shared with provincial and national expert committees to inform real-time public health response and biannual vaccine strain selection by the WHO.

By including more practitioners in our network we are able to increase the power of our analyses and improve our understanding of vaccine protection, ultimately improving the health of millions of vaccine recipients each year.

[View more information.](#)

We Welcome Your Feedback

Please continue to send us your questions, concerns, and feedback. Your input helps ensure that what you receive through this newsletter is of value to you, as a BCNPA member.

Email us at communications@bcnpa.org any time.

Your comments will always be kept confidential. We do not publish your feedback without your explicit consent.

The **BCNPA Member Newsletter** is published quarterly by:

The BC Nurse Practitioners Association (BCNPA)
27656 110th Avenue, Maple Ridge BC, V2W 1P6
Email: info@bcnpa.org
Web: www.bcnpa.org

BCNPA Newsletter Development
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Links Communication Solutions

With additional contributions and thanks to:
Brenda Ingram; Fiona Hutchison; Sue Peck; Michelle Sims.

Newsletter support and production proudly sponsored by [Links Communication Solutions](#).