



THE CONNECTION

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CNSA New Board of Directors Congratulates ICN Student Network Launch

The new board of directors has taken off rolling. This year in June 2007, the CNSA Past-President, Michael Garreau attended the inaugural meeting and launch of the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Student Nurse Network.

The CNSA National Assembly approved the strategic plan of CNSA - Vision 2010 - in January 2006 and with that endorsed the recommendation to support the International Nursing Student Project. The project was given the working title of the International Nursing Student Association (INSA). With funding support from the Office of Nursing Policy, Health Canada, the CNSA set forth to collaborate with our international nursing student partners like the National Student Nurse Association (NSNA), the Caribbean Nursing Student Organization (CSNO) and the European Nursing Student Association (ENSA) to see how this two year project would unfold. What was developed was the proposed vision, objectives, governance and framework for INSA.

Several meetings were held with our international counterparts like the International Federation of Medical Student Associations (IFMSA) and the International Pharmacy Student Federation (IPSF) to see how interprofessionally we could support each others mission. Such

joint initiatives resulted in the INSA also becoming one of the joint working group members planning the World Healthcare Student Symposium (WHSS) which will take place in November 2007 in Portugal.

Between January 2006 and June 2007, over 18 meetings were held (either face to face or via teleconference) in regards to the INSA which included attendance at the WHO World Health Assembly meetings in May 2005 and May 2006.

In June 2007, at the ICN Council of National Representatives meeting in Yokohama, Japan, the founding members of INSA came together to discuss next steps. At that meeting, some very tense negotiations took place about the need and feasibility of INSA. Some of the discussion centered around the very nature of the differing capacity of various countries' nursing student associations and their relation to their "parent" organizations who were all voting members in ICN. In order to minimize any semblance of lack of support for ICN and not to cause undue friction between nursing student associations and their "parent" organizations with the joint launch of the ICN Student Nurse Network and the INSA Project, the working group members of the INSA project decided that it would be best to focus our collective efforts for the

next two years in order to support a successful launch of the ICN Student Nurse Network and re-evaluate the INSA project in 2009. Some members of the INSA working group wrote follow up articles to share their experience and they are published on the following pages.

With this unanimous decision, the INSA Project members, spent the next 48 hours intensely planning the launch of the ICN Student Nurse Network. The launch took place on May 30th, 2007 with over 300 nursing students in attendance from around the world. For more information about the launch see —www.cnsa.ca

After the successful launch a follow up teleconference was scheduled and a core working group was put in place to oversee the ICN Student Nurse Network. The CNSA was proud to see Jennifer Davis, NSNA President and Allison Webel, NSNA Member share the role of co-chairs.

This initiative shows the true nature of nursing students ability to collaborate successfully with our inter and intra professional partners and realize a vision which CNSA has had since the ICN Quadrennial that took place in Vancouver, Canada in 1997. It was the pleasure of the CNSA to be one of the main funders and acting secretariat for the project.

Courtney Cooper

Director of Communications/
Directrice des communications

NurseONE

INF-FUSION

“The official date that students will be able to become members of NurseONE will be November 10th, 2007 - Les étudiantes et les étudiants pourront devenir membres de INF-Fusion en novembre 2007 ”

Stephanie Tiller
Atlantic Regional
Director/ Direc-
trice régionale
de l'Atlantique

Canadian Nurses Association Update

From September 26-28, 2007 the Canadian Nurses Association held its fall Board of Directors meeting in Ottawa. The CNSA holds a special observers status on the board that grants the president a seat at the table and the privilege of speaking.

The agenda was focused on orientation as annual change-over in the provincial jurisdictions had occurred, meaning that there were many new members. There was much conversation of the CNA

Centennial Celebrations, which will kick-off in January 2008. The CNSA will be hosting a Student Luncheon at the CNA biennial convention in June, as a contribution to the array of sensational events that will be taking place in honor of the CNA's 100th anniversary.

Over the course of the meeting days, members of the CNA had several exciting ways to enhance their relationship with students. A CNA representative was

present at each of the CNSA Regional Conferences. Also, the CNA will be presenting at the National Conference in Winnipeg, MB.

Please visit www.cna-aicc.ca for more information.

Sarah Painter
President/Présidente



Mise à jour de l'AIIIC

Les 26, 27 et 28 septembre derniers, l'Association des Infirmières et Infirmiers du Canada a tenu la réunion de son conseil d'administration d'automne à Ottawa. L'AEIC possède un statut d'observateur spécial lors de ce conseil d'administration, ce qui garantit au président un siège à la table et le droit de parole.

L'ordre du jour était concentré sur l'orientation, étant donné que des changements annuels se sont produits dans

les juridictions provinciales, ce qui signifie qu'il y avait de nombreux nouveaux membres. Il y a eu de nombreux débats à propos des célébrations du centenaire de l'AIIIC, qui se produira en janvier 2008. L'AEIC accueillera le déjeuner des étudiant(e)s lors de la convention biennale en juin, cela constitue une contribution à l'ensemble des formidables événements qui prendront place en l'honneur du 100^{ème} anniversaire de

l'AIIIC.

Pendant le déroulement de la réunion, les membres de l'AIIIC ont eu plusieurs manières intéressantes d'améliorer leurs relations avec les étudiants. Un représentant de l'AIIIC était présent à chacune des conférences régionales de l'AEIC. L'AIIIC sera également présente lors du congrès national à Winnipeg, MB.

Sarah Painter
President/Présidente

Atlantic Region Update /

Mise à jour – région de l'Atlantique

My name is Stephanie Tiller and I am pleased to introduce myself as the 2007-2008 Atlantic Regional Director. Currently, I am a 4th year Bachelor of Nursing student at Memorial University School of Nursing.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Official

and Associate Delegates for their hard work so far this year, and all the hard work I know there is to come.

This year, our Atlantic Regional Conference was in Saint John, New Brunswick hosted by the University of New Brunswick- Saint John chapter. The conference was

held October 26th-27th at the Delta Brunswick hotel. There were a lot of great things to do and see at this year's conference including a whole list of great speakers, a charity auction with a special guest host, pub crawl, and a banquet dinner. I enjoyed meeting students from across the Atlantic Regional at this year's

event.

I am delighted to say that the Atlantic Region is as strong as ever. We hope to only get stronger with the addition of Practical Nursing schools from our region.

There are a lot of exciting things happening this year with the CNSA. I look forward to discussing these opportunities with our member schools over the coming school year.

I wish everyone the best in their studies. If you have any further questions, don't hesitate to contact me anytime at atlantic@cnsa.ca

Stephanie Tiller

Atlantic Regional Director / Directrice régionale de l'Atlantique

Mon nom est Stéphanie Tiller et je suis heureuse d'être la directrice régionale de l'Atlantique 2007-2008. Je suis actuellement étudiante en 4^{ème} année de baccalauréat en sciences infirmières à l'école des sciences infirmières de Memorial University.

Je souhaiterais prendre cette occasion pour remercier tous les délégué(e)s officiel(le)s et associé(e)s pour leur dur travail accompli jusqu'à présent et aussi pour tout le travail à venir.

Cette année, le congrès de la région atlantique se déroulait à Saint John, Nouveau-Brunswick, hébergé par l'université du Nouveau Brunswick – local Saint John. Le congrès s'est tenu les 26 et 27 octobre derniers, à l'hôtel Delta Brunswick. Il y avait de nombreuses choses très intéressantes à faire et à voir lors du congrès de cette année, parmi lesquelles des intervenants passionnants, une vente de charité avec un invité spécial, une tournée des bars et un dîner de banquet. J'ai apprécié ma rencontre avec les étudiant(e)s de toute la région atlantique lors de cet événement annuel.

Je suis heureuse de dire que la région atlantique est plus forte que jamais. Nous espérons devenir encore plus fort avec l'ajout des écoles de praticienne infirmière venant de notre région.

Il y a beaucoup de choses passionnantes qui vont se produire cette année au sein de l'AEIC. J'ai hâte de pouvoir parler de ces opportunités avec les écoles membres lors des futures années scolaires.

Je souhaite à toutes et à tous de réussir dans vos études.

Si vous avez d'autres questions, n'hésitez pas à me contacter atlantic@cnsa.ca

Stephanie Tiller

Atlantic Regional Director / Directrice régionale de l'Atlantique

CNSA/AEIC Officers for 2007-2008

Informatics Officer/ Administrative d'informatiques

Justine Reyes
University of Calgary

Publications Officer/ Administrative des publications

Belinda Pollard
University of PEI

National Career and Leadership Development Officer

Krista Kamstra
Ryerson University (Alumni)

National Community and Public Health Officer

Taunya Van Allen
McMaster University/Mohawk/
Conestoga College

Prairie Regional Update / Mise à jour - Région des Prairies

Hello fellow students! My name is Corissa Dyck, the Prairie Regional Director for 07-08. I am a full-time student at the University of Manitoba, currently finishing up a couple 2nd year courses while taking mostly 3rd year courses.

This year is a special one for our region. In addition to the collaborative Western/Prairie Regional Conference in Edmonton in November hosted by the University of Alberta Nursing Undergraduate Association (NUA), the National Conference will be held in Winnipeg January 22-26/08 hosted by the University of Manitoba Nurs-

ing Students' Association. Details for both conferences can be found at www.cnsa.ca.

My goals for this year include increasing CNSA membership in our region, representing CNSA in our region as appropriate, and being YOUR voice however and whenever I can. Feel free to contact me at prairie@cnsa.ca for anything CNSA-related – or even just to say hello!

See you at the conferences!

Corissa Dyck

Prairies Regional Director/ Directeur région des Prairies



Corissa Dyck
Prairies Regional
Director/ Directeur
région des Prairies

CFNU Update/Mise du jour FCSI

From October 3-5, 2007 the Canadian Federation of Nurses Unions held its National Executive Board meeting in Ottawa. The CNSA holds a seat on the board that grants the president the privilege of speaking during the meeting.

Over the three days, the CFNU discussed the success of this past year's convention. Also, each jurisdictional member gave a report that really accented the unique challenges for nursing throughout Canada.

As an effort to connect nursing students to their appropriate union and enhance participation, each member of the CFNU NEB was given the

contact information for the appropriate regional director. The CFNU and CNSA are excited for the possibilities that our continuing relationship creates. Please visit www.nursesunions.ca for more information.

Les 3, 4 et 5 octobre derniers, la fédération canadienne des syndicats d'infirmières/infirmiers a tenu sa réunion du conseil exécutif national à Ottawa. L'AEIC possède une place au conseil d'administration, ce qui donne au président le droit de parole durant la réunion.

Pendant ces trois jours, la FCSI a débattu de la convention de l'année

écoulée. Chaque membre jurisdictionnel faisait de plus un rapport qui accentuait vraiment les défis uniques des soins infirmiers dans tout le Canada.

Dans un effort de relier les étudiant(e)s en sciences infirmières à leurs syndicats respectifs et ainsi améliorer la participation, chaque membre du conseil exécutif national de la FCSI a obtenu les coordonnées du directeur régional approprié. La FCSI et l'AEIC sont satisfaits des possibilités permises par notre relation durable. Veuillez visiter le site www.nursesunions.ca pour obtenir plus d'informations.

Sarah Painter
President/Présidente



CASN Update/ Mise à jour de l'ACÉSI

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) has been a key stakeholder in working to increase the access to and opportunities for nursing students. In November 2005, the CNSA Board of Directors and the CASN Board of Directors agreed to collaborate on the development of three joint position statements:

- Healthy Work Environments
= Healthy Learning Environments

- Clinical Placements
- Tuition Support for Nursing Students and Faculty

The CNSA looks forward to more news and welcome our new Administrative Officer Heather Chisholm, who will be the Administrative Officer for both CASN and CNSA as well as Jo-Anne Swanson who will be the CASN Representative on the Board of CNSA.

Richard Boudreau
Vice-President/Vice-Président
Sarah Painter
President/Présidente



"Both the Board of Directors and National Office at CASN have assisted in finding ways that will ensure long term viability for nursing students to become involved in their professional association. - Le conseil d'administration et le bureau national de l'ACÉSI ont contribué à trouver des moyens de permettre aux étudiantes et étudiants en sciences infirmières de s'engager dans leur association professionnelle »

PN Canada Update/Mise à jour de l'IAC

The CNSA is working with Practical Nurses Canada as an effort to enhance the student voice of practical nursing in Canada.

Please visit www.pncanada.ca for more information.



L'AEIC travaille avec les infirmières auxiliaires du Canada dans un effort d'améliorer la voix des étudiant(e)s infirmiers (ères) auxiliaires au Canada.

Veuillez visiter le site www.pncanada.ca pour obtenir plus d'informations.

Sarah Painter
President/Présidente

Ontario Region Update / Mise à jour — région de l'Ontario

Before I tell you all a little bit about what is going on in Ontario, I'd like to first introduce myself. My name is Chrissy Lefkimmatis and I am this years Ontario Regional Director. I am currently in my third year at Nipissing University/Canadore College in North Bay.

As the Ontario Regional Director (ORD) I am very happy to provide you with the following updates about what is going on in our region this year to date. I have been in the position of ORD since April 1, 2007 and have had the wonderful opportunity of connecting with and speaking to many of the key stakeholder in our region as well as many of the nursing leaders, and chapter members from the various member schools. I have specifically been involved in providing a student perspective of the Nursing Graduate Guarantee for the Ministry of Health on a working group for the initiative. I have continued to work with Deans and Directors of various programs around the province to recruit new schools and increase participation and membership in existing chapters. Since the introduction of RPN students into the Association I have been interested in connecting with as many of those schools as possible with the hopes that they will become member schools in the near future. I have also forged strong relationships with the Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) and was recently asked to speak at their Provincial Coordinators Meeting. This was a very successful initiative in introducing the ONA membership to students in Ontario and the ways that they, as front line workers, can exist in co-mentorship with us.

This years Ontario Regional Conference was hosted by the University of Western Ontario/Fanshawe College chapter in London, Ontario and was a great success with approximately 100 students in attendance. The speakers and panelists provided great insights while the workshops were extremely useful to our student membership. We also had great participation from sponsors/ stakeholders. I'd like to commend UWO/Fanshawe for their hard work and achievements in making this years Regional Conference another great success.

For those of you not in the Ontario Region, I certainly look forward to meeting you all at this years National Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Avant de vous faire une mise à jour sur l'Ontario, je voudrais me présenter. Je m'appelle Chrissy Lefkimmatis et je suis la directrice régionale de l'Ontario. Je suis en troisième année à l'Université Nipissing / College Canadore à North Bay.

En tant que directrice régionale de l'Ontario, je suis très heureuse de vous présenter les nouveautés en l'Ontario. Je suis en poste depuis le 1^{er} avril 2007 et j'ai eu l'immense plaisir de rencontrer des intervenants importants du milieu, ainsi que plusieurs chefs de file en soins infirmiers et des membres de diverses écoles chapitres. J'ai participé à un groupe de travail de l'initiative Nursing Graduate Guarantee du ministère de la santé pour présenter la perspective étudiante. J'ai collaboré avec les doyens et directeurs de divers programmes dans la province pour recruter des nouvelles écoles et accroître le nombre de

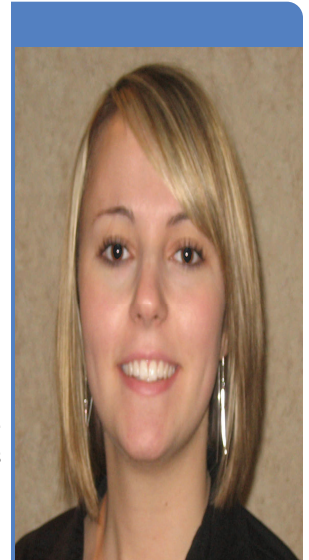
membres dans les chapitres existants. Depuis l'inclusion des infirmières auxiliaires autorisées dans l'association, j'ai contacté plusieurs écoles pour les encourager à devenir membre. J'ai également renforcé les liens avec l'Ontario Nurses Association (ONA) et j'ai été invitée à faire une présentation lors d'une réunion des coordonnateurs provinciaux. L'événement a eu beaucoup de succès et nous a permis de mettre les membres de l'ONA en contact avec les étudiants de l'Ontario, pour éventuellement établir un lien de mentorat.

Cette année, l'Université Western Ontario/ College Fanshawe ont tenu le congrès régional à London, Ontario. Près de 100 étudiants ont participé. Les présentateurs et experts ont présenté des perspectives très intéressantes pour les étudiants. Plusieurs commanditaires et intervenants y ont également participé. Je voudrais féliciter les organisateurs pour leur travail et le succès du congrès régional.

J'attends avec impatience de pouvoir rencontrer les étudiants des autres provinces cette année au congrès national à Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Chrissy Lefkimmatis

Ontario Regional Director/ Directrice régionale de l'Ontario



Chrissy Lefkimmatis
Ontario Regional Director/ Directrice régionale de l'Ontario

President's Update



Sarah Painter
President/
Présidente

Since my appointment to President at the fall Board of Director's meeting in Ottawa, there has been much work to do. These past months have given me some of my most incredible learning experiences as a nursing student and a person. It is truly a privilege to be the representative of such a vibrant, dynamic, and strong collection of young professionals.

I have had much cause to visit the east coast over the past months. The CNA and CFNU board meetings occurred soon after our own CNSA BOD meeting. I have just returned from the New Health Professionals Network meeting in Toronto. This is a network

representing over 20,000 future healthcare professionals training in nursing, medicine, pharmacy, social work, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and other health professions. The NHPN stands for the commitment of the next generation of health professionals to working and caring for our patients within a single-tier, publicly funded and delivered healthcare system. This was an exciting one-day meeting where the presidents of PAIRO, CPAS, SCCA, and OASW joined to reaffirm commitment to the NHPN and its potential. Please visit www.futurefaceofmedicare.ca for more information.

My months ahead promise many

challenges and opportunities. I will attend the winter BOD meeting for the CNA as well as the ACEN AGM, both in Ottawa. Soon after will come extensive preparation for this year's National Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I look forward to meeting all of you over what will be sure to be a fantastic week of learning, growth, and progress for the CNSA.

Sarah Painter
President/Présidente

Mise du jour de la Présidente

Depuis ma nomination au poste de présidente lors de la réunion d'automne du conseil d'administration à Ottawa, nous avons eu beaucoup de travail à accomplir. Ces derniers mois ont été une expérience incroyable d'apprentissage en tant qu'étudiante en sciences infirmières et en tant qu'individu. C'est vraiment un privilège d'être la représentante d'un groupe de jeunes professionnel(le)s qui soient si vivant(e)s, dynamiques et fort(e)s.

J'ai eu plusieurs fois l'occasion de visiter la côte est durant ces derniers mois. Les réunions des conseils d'administration de la FCSI et de l'AIC se sont déroulés juste après notre propre réunion du conseil d'administration de l'AEIC. Je viens juste de rentrer de la réunion du réseau

des nouveaux professionnels de la santé (NHPN) à Toronto. Il s'agit d'un réseau qui représente environ 20 000 futur(e)s professionnel(le)s de la santé qui étudient en sciences infirmières, médecine, pharmacie, travail social, physiothérapie, ergothérapie et autres professions de la santé. Le NHPN s'implique dans l'engagement des professionnel(le)s de la santé de la prochaine génération afin de travailler pour nos patients et s'intéresser à eux en fournissant un système de santé, à un seul palier, financé par des fonds publics. Ce fut une réunion très intéressante lors de laquelle les présidents de la PAIRO, la CPAS, la SCCA et l'ATTSO se sont joints à nous pour réaffirmer leur engagement envers le NHPN et so

potentiel. Veuillez visiter le site www.futurefaceofmedicare.ca pour obtenir plus d'informations.

Les mois à venir promettent d'apporter bien des défis et des opportunités. Je prendrai part à la réunion d'hiver du conseil d'administration de l'AIC ainsi qu'à l'AGA de l'ACDSI, toutes les deux se déroulant à Ottawa. Peu après viendra le moment des grands préparatifs pour le congrès annuel de cette année à Winnipeg, Manitoba. J'ai hâte de vous voir toutes et tous lors de ce qui s'annonce comme étant une semaine fantastique d'apprentissage, d'avancée et de progrès pour l'AEIC.

DES NOUVELLES DU QUÉBEC



Brigitte Ireson-Valois
Directrice régionale du
Québec/ Quebec Regional
Director

Il me fait plaisir d'être la nouvelle Directrice Régionale du Québec depuis le 1^{er} avril 2007 ! À ce titre, j'ai été occupée à travailler avec les étudiants en sciences infirmières du Québec en assurant la liaison avec les intervenants importants du secteur ainsi que les membres de la section, et je me suis efforcée de recruter de nouvelles écoles et plus particulièrement de préparer le congrès pour la région du Québec. Cette année, le congrès fut tenu à l'Université Laval et nous fûmes accueilli par l'Association des Étudiantes et Étudiants en Sciences Infirmières de l'Université Laval, dans la ville de Québec, du 2 au 4 novembre, sous le thème *Sciences Infirmières, un monde de possibilités : Bâtir une carrière à son image*. Le but de cet événement était d'informer les étudiants du Québec en sciences

infirmières sur l'incroyable diversité de possibilités, unique à la profession des soins infirmiers, de même que la perspective de se forger une carrière en fonction de ses passions et de ses intérêts. Une sélection de participants inspirants, tant francophones qu'anglophones, nous ont parlé du rôle exceptionnel qu'ils jouent dans la profession des soins infirmiers. Les représentants d'organismes importants, tels l'OIIQ, l'ACÉSI Québec, et le SIDIIEF ont été invités à participer et à se mêler aux étudiants en sciences infirmières de plus de 15 écoles des sciences infirmières, incluant les cégeps, lors de la dégustation de vins et fromages, de l'encan de charité du vendredi soir et du banquet en tenue de ville tenu à l'Hôtel Delta de Québec, le samedi soir. Ce fut une occasion unique pour recruter

des institutions de toutes les régions à se joindre à l'AEIC. De plus, tous furent invités à assister aux rencontres du conseil de direction régionale tenues au cours de la fin de semaine.

Le congrès tenu dans les deux langues promettait d'être une occasion unique de développement, tant académique que professionnel, plus particulièrement grâce à la tenue de deux ateliers dédiés aux carrières le dimanche. L'un des ateliers traitait du placement à l'obtention du diplôme et l'autre était un atelier interactif sur les soins d'urgence. Pour plus d'informations sur le congrès ou d'autres événements qui se tiendront dans la région du Québec, n'hésitez pas à communiquer avec moi à quebec@cnsa.ca.

NEWS FROM QUEBEC

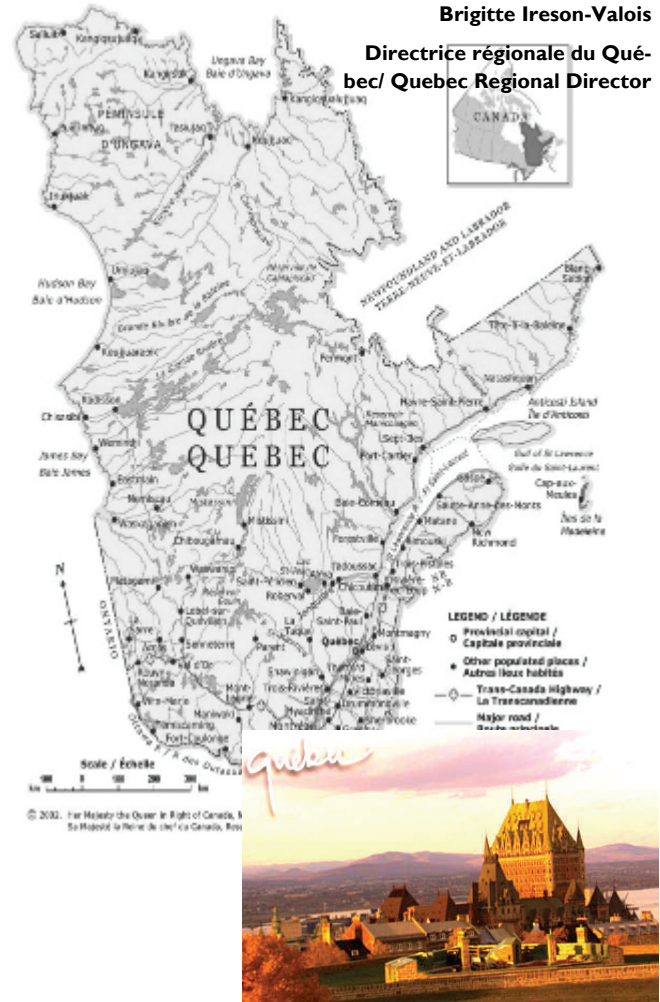
It has been a pleasure being the new Quebec Regional Director since April 1st 2007! As such, I have been busy working for the nursing students of Quebec by liaising with key nursing stakeholders, with chapter members, working hard at recruiting new schools but especially by working hard on this year's Quebec Regional Conference. This year the conference will be held at Laval University hosted by l'Association des Étudiantes et Étudiants en Sciences Infirmières de l'Université Laval, in Quebec City, November 2nd-4th, under the theme *Nursing: A world of possibilities, Building your own career*. The goal of this event is to fully inform nursing students of Quebec of the incredible diversity unique to the nursing profession as well as the possibility to forge a career centered on the individual's passions and interests. A variety of inspirational speakers, both English and French, have been invited to speak about their exceptional role in the nursing profession. Representatives from key nursing stakeholders of Que-

bec, such as the OIIQ, CASN-Qc, the FIQ and SIDIIEF, have been invited to attend and mingle with nursing students from over 15 nursing schools, including CEGEPS, during the wine and cheese and charity auction on Friday evening, and the semi-formal banquet being held at the Delta Hotel-Quebec City on Saturday night. This is an amazing opportunity to recruit non-members schools from across the region to join the CNSA. Furthermore, everyone is invited to attend the regional executive meetings to be held during the weekend.

The fully bilingual conference promises to be an unforgettable educational and career developing opportunity, especially with the arrival of two career workshops on the Sunday, one on the topic of career placement upon graduation while the other is an interactive workshop in emergency care. For registration forms please visit the CNSA website at www.cnsa.ca and look for the Quebec Regional Conference page. For more information on the conference or other happenings in the Quebec Region please do not hesitate to contact me at quebec@cnsa.ca.

Brigitte Ireson-Valois

Directrice régionale du Québec/ Quebec Regional Director



ICN Student Network Launch and INSA Project

By Daniel Jackson

In May 30 2007 the International Council of Nurses launched a Student Nurse Network at their biennial congress meeting in Yokohama, Japan. Tracy Witehira (TA Chair) and I were privileged to be involved in the build up and delivery of this launch after nearly three days of meetings with other student nurses and student nurse leaders from around the world.

The NSU had its first official contact with international students via a teleconference earlier this year where Tracy and I were invited to attend the Yokohama meetings. Here we learned about the longstanding idea (first mooted 1993) of forming a student body with the support of ICN, and the fragmented development over the preceding 14 years. Now, with much work recently done by students from Canada and the US the ICN board had agreed to host a student group. The exact nature of this group was not yet clear but all the student involved were enthusiastic about developing an international group that focused on empowering nursing students. NZNO's BoD was informed of this communication in their February meeting, and expressed interest in this ongoing activity and acknowledging a desire to support student activity. Many emails were circulated within New Zealand and internationally about the potential nature, functions and powers the student group may have, and we were initially hoping to form an association of national student nurse organisations with elected regional representatives, committee and chairperson that could effectively and accountably communicate on behalf of student nurses on a global level. Other international student groups involved with the World Healthcare Student Symposium (Medicine and Pharmacy students) offered their support by making space for a nursing student group within their activities, should this be formed. Another teleconference followed in early April, and many students voiced their commitment to coming together in Yokohama to participate in the launch of the student group.

After much deliberation and discussion with NZNO professional staff I presented an agenda item to NZNO's BoD in their April meeting regarding support of NSU and TA chairs to attend this launch. There seemed to be great potential in this experience to show NZNO's commitment to developing student resources and demonstrating partnership. Tracy and I felt very fortunate that the Board agreed to provide this support, and knowing that Brenda Close, Marion Guy and Geoff Annals would be there to guide us was very reassuring. We both knew that the learning opportunity given to us by NZNO was an amazing chance to experience first hand the realities of nursing in an international environment, and to strengthen governance and leadership skills amongst our colleagues. A very excited Tracy and I spent time rearranging our study and practicum timetables with the helpful tutors at SIT Invercargill, our personal lives and passports to be ready to travel in late May.

Before we knew it we were there, navigating our way through crowded bus and subway stations on our way to our hotels. The Japanese people were very friendly and helpful, and would happily guide us through stairways, escalators and tunnels on route to our destination- despite their travel being in the opposite direction! Sitting through the first morning of CNR meetings as observers, Tracy and I were amazed at the spirit of goodwill and cooperation shown by nurses from so many countries. For us this was a main theme of the entire event, goodwill between nurses and student nurses, with regard for the many similarities we share and also the differences between us. The student meetings were a great learning experience as we discovered how fortunate NSU and TA members are, in our opinions, compared to their peers in many other countries. Great access to staff support for appropriate services and advice plus networking through NZNO's colleges and sections are just two of the many benefits nursing students have in New Zealand. Some countries lack an effective national nursing organisation, are divided between two competing entities, or exclude their students altogether. We were told how the European Nursing Student Group had a collective of ten countries and potentially 200,000 members... and US National Student Nurses Association have 45000 members and 16 full time staff... But, however students collaborate nationally, it seem several of our issues are the same world wide; Quality of preceptor/ mentor preparation, clinical placement availability in acute areas, and access to affordable childcare services, being examples. Novel solutions were described (such as NSU's Kerry O'Leary's work towards establishing a 'family room' at CPIT's Library) and overall positive experiences shared.

We moved on to business, and recapped the communication and ideas we exchanged up to this point. We then were shown exactly what ICN would provide, in terms of support. They wished to establish a network of individual members from ICN member and non-member countries which basically meant they would host a message board attached to their website, manage a database of member's names and email addresses, and share their lovely letter head with students who wished to seek funding from public and private sources in promoting student network activities. Unfortunately, the scope of their established network structure would not facilitate internal organisational development, so infrastructure such as an elected committee of national student leaders and a chairperson to represent strategic issues could not occur. Opinions within the group were divided for a time, we felt split between commitments to developing a semi-autonomous INSA that could be established soon and consolidated in the future- and participating in the ICN controlled Student network, launching TOMORROW. Diplomacy and the earlier noted spirit of good faith collectively prompted us to decide the most positive action was to support the ICN proposal at this stage and to assist the launch process with our individual participation. We moved ahead with the agenda for the meeting, all taking different roles such as moderator, presenter, Microphone carrier and scribe. We developed a two hour programme that highlighted the history and potential future directions of the ICN Student Network, including two interesting guest speakers plus an introduction from ICN President Dr Hiroko Minami. The Goal ICN had set was to promote opportunities for exchange of ideas and expertise among individual students, so we were careful to accurately portray the fact that therefore, it would be up to individual student members to form informal groups to identify and develop shared ideas, and submit these to ICN for approval before distributing and working on them. The Launch day and time arrived, and saw the group feeling the tension that comes before public speaking. I find times like these very stimulating as it pushes out the envelope of my comfort zone and confronts the concept I have of myself as often quite reticent. Each time I swallow the frog in my throat and step up to the challenge of public speaking I feel fortunate and find the challenging experience a reward in itself- even when my limited aptitude and skill shows true! As Moderator I welcomed the special guests and approximately 150 members of the audience to the launch, introduced the ICN President and guest speakers, the Student Network PPP Presenter, and tried to manage the strict time constraints. I learned a valuable lesson; rehearse with your presenting team! Ensure everyone knows exactly what is expected of them, and where and when to do it. However, regardless of how you perceive your own performance, observers are invariably gracious enough to say "That went really well"- thank goodness for charity!

During and after the Launch, the team worked the audience gathering over 100 names and email addresses of students interested in joining the network, and a working group from within these numbers volunteered to get things up and moving. It was really happening! Returning to New Zealand I reflected on the uplifting and caring nature of not only every nurse and student I met, but on the entire event. The theme of the conference, "Nurses at the forefront, dealing with the unexpected", would be a lifelong memory for me because of the reality behind the words.

ICN Student Network Launch and INSA Project

By Rebecca Wheeler RN, BScN

Yokohama, Japan – a fitting setting for my second International Council of Nurses (ICN) meeting for following up on what we students began two years ago when I attended my first ICN conference in Taipei, Taiwan, 2005, as NSNA President. There, at the ICN's official quadrennial meeting, there was a student assembly at which national student representatives presented their countries' positions on a topic predetermined by the ICN (that year it happened to be diversity). It was after this assembly that a group of us met to discuss the possibility of forming an international organization for nursing students. This was the informal creation of the International Nursing Student Association (INSA, as we called it). And here in Yokohama, we were meeting to decide its future.

Why create INSA? I think NSNA members are better equipped than nursing students from other countries to understand the value of such an organization. We are one of the only countries in which the student nurses' organization is completely autonomous from the professional nursing organization. INSA would be very similar to NSNA, but on an international level. So, to understand the value of INSA, let's think about: what does NSNA do? It gives us a place to meet and network as we learn about important things involved in the profession we plan to enter. It also gives us a place to practice our skills as delegates, resolution-writers, and members of Boards of Directors so that we will be better prepared to be involved in professional nursing organizations. And it gives us a national forum for discussing important issues. INSA would do all the same things on an international level. For example, one issue INSA might discuss could be the increasing global migration of nursing. Many foreign nurses are emigrating to the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the U.K. This international migration has some serious ethical questions, especially around the "brain drain" it causes in other countries by recruiting away their best nurses. On the other hand, we have a duty to staff our hospitals and provide the best care possible to our patients. And an individual has the right to choose how (and where) to live his/her life. An international forum for nursing students would be the perfect place to have these discussions.

The image of nursing students is another important reason for creating INSA. There are other international student organizations in healthcare, specifically, one for pharmacy students and another for medical students. Nursing students deserve to have an international presence among their peers. Of course, we face a challenge in that students in those programs are in school for at least four years no matter which country they are from. Nursing programs vary widely, even within the U. S., in the amount of time students spend in school. We also have varying levels of entry into practice that require different amounts of education.

The group that met in Yokohama had to decide what to do about INSA. The ICN had been approached after Taipei to see what kind of support it would give to an INSA-type organization. In response, the ICN decided to set up a "student network". (The ICN has several "networks" of nurses with specific interests, for example one for HIV/AIDS and another for Advanced Practice Nursing.) Due to its bylaws and organizational rules (more complicated than I can understand) this was the most the ICN could offer students. If INSA were to exist as an independent organization, the ICN could do nothing to support it. The following are the major differences between INSA and the ICN's Student Network:

	INSA	ICN Student Network
Organizational structure	A Board of Directors, consisting of a representative from each region of the world, and headed by a Chair and a Vice-Chair. A constitution/bylaws would be determined by the BOD and voted upon by the member countries.	A "working group" of anyone interested. A "terms of reference" could be created to determine how the group is to function, but anything would be subject to ICN approval and must be in accordance with ICN policies.
Meetings	Every two years. The intervening year would be for regional meetings.	Every two years at the ICN conferences. Additional meetings could be arranged as needed.
Finances/Resources	Would be determined by the member countries. A dues structure would be determined by the BOD through the constitution/bylaws. Funding could be sought freely.	ICN will provide meeting space and perhaps official translation for the meetings held during ICN conferences. No dues will be charged, but conference fees would have to be paid to attend. Any funding sought from outside agencies would have to go through the ICN (except for private funding for individuals to attend ICN meetings.)
Membership	As in the ICN – through national Student Nurse Associations (or their equivalent). Additional options would be determined by the BOD through the constitution/bylaws.	Anyone, but no one officially "represents" any organization or country. Each person acts solely as an individual. In addition, as it stands now, the individual does not have to be a student – just someone interested in the student network.
Taking action	Would be determined by the member countries.	Unknown at this point, but again, any action would be subject to ICN approval and must be in accordance with ICN policies.
Relationship with other organizations	Would be able to pursue any associative relationships freely – to hold joint conferences, share resources, disseminate information about issues, etc.	Any relationships would be subject to ICN approval and must be in accordance with ICN policies.

Both options have major strengths and limitations. The strength of INSA would be its ability to function as an independent organization. The limitation would be its initial lack of resources. The Student Network's strength is that the ICN is providing it with some resources and a base from which to function. The limitation is that everything it does is subject to the ICN's approval. In the end, it was decided that our group should direct its energy towards helping the ICN get the Student Network up and running. To that end, many signed up to be in the "working group" (and, in case you are also interested, the ICN will be sending out an official invitation for anyone to be a part of this "working group" – check the website: www.icn.ch). Many others decided to sign up for the general listserv to receive information about what is happening. It will be very interesting to see what comes of this in the future. We all know how motivated students can be, and what great leaders we have among us. This could be a wonderful international forum for us. I certainly, have felt privileged to work with the students from around the world that I met through the ICN in both Taipei and Yokohama. We worked hard, but I will also never forget dinner at a traditional Japanese restaurant, or singing Karaoke, or dinner in Chinatown, or seeing the Empress and watching Japanese performances at the reception hosted by the Japanese Nurses Association. I have made some wonderful friends that I hope never to lose. Isn't that what this is all about?

National Conference

The CNSA National Conference is fast approaching, and the team has been preparing for almost a full year to ensure a successful conference. The Conference will be held at the Fairmont Hotel in Winnipeg, January 22 – 26, 2008. The theme of this year's National Conference is *Spirited Nursing*. Nursing is a demanding career that requires providing not just physical but mental and emotional support for patients. Nurses are concerned with all aspects of health and in order to achieve excellence in this area, they must also care for themselves. *Spirited Nursing* embodies the full meaning of what it is to be a nurse: to care for the minds, bodies, and spirits of our patients and ourselves. The aim is to examine the holistic side of the profession by focusing on wellness, culturally sensitive care, therapeutic relationships, and self-care for working nurses. There will be an array of speakers as well as a presentation from the CNSA National Debate Team that will explore these areas. We have also been very fortunate this year with regards to our workshops that we will be offering, they include: career development, exam preparatory sessions for both LPN and BN students, an APA writing skills, and a student abuse workshop.

Our National Conference Planning Committee members are leaders at the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Nursing. The team includes Trish Farkas (National Conference Director), Jon Bahrychuk (Logistics Coordinator), Sean Share (Sponsorship and Exhibitor/Career Fair Coordinator), Lindsay Maxwell (Assistant to the Sponsorship Exhibitor/Career Fair Coordinator), Poongodi Sampath (National Team Coordinator), Felicia Dyck (Charity Auction Coordinator), Victoria Kulchycki (Social Events Coordinator), Kealy Murray (Speakers Coordinator), and Courtney Teetaert (Volunteer Coordinator). We are looking forward to bringing together nursing students and professionals from across Canada to educate, network and inspire each other to improve the nursing profession. For more information regarding this great opportunity please go to www.cnsa.ca and follow the links to the National Conference. We look forward to seeing you in Winnipeg.

Trish Farkas

CNSA National Conference Director

Le congrès nationale

Le congrès national de l'AEIC approche rapidement et l'équipe se prépare depuis bientôt un an afin de garantir que ce sera un succès. Le congrès se tiendra à l'hôtel Fairmont de Winnipeg, du 22 au 26 janvier 2008. Le thème du congrès annuel de cette année est *l'esprit infirmier*. Les sciences infirmières font partie d'une carrière exigeante qui nécessite de fournir aux patients non seulement un soutien physique, mais également affectif et mental. Les infirmier(ère)s sont préoccupé(e)s par tous les aspects de la santé et afin d'atteindre l'excellence dans ce domaine, nous devons aussi nous soutenir nous-mêmes. *L'esprit infirmier* représente l'ensemble de ce qu'être un(e) infirmier(ère) signifie ; soigner les esprits et les corps de nos patients et de nous-mêmes. Le but est d'examiner l'aspect holistique de la profession en se concentrant sur le bien-être, les soins culturellement spécifiques, les relations thérapeutiques et la santé personnelle pour les infirmier(ère)s opérationnel(le)s. Il y aura un ensemble d'intervenants ainsi que des présentations provenant de l'équipe nationale de débat de l'AEIC qui explorera ces domaines. Cette année, nous aurons également la chance de suivre des ateliers que nous proposerons et qui comprennent : le développement de carrière, les sessions de préparations aux examens à la fois pour les étudiant(e)s qui souhaitent devenir infirmier(ère)s auxiliaires autorisé(e)s et ceux qui sont en baccalauréat de sciences infirmières, un atelier d'aptitude à la rédaction APA et un atelier sur les abus commis envers les étudiant(e)s.

Les membres de notre comité de planification du congrès national sont les chefs de file de la faculté de sciences infirmières de l'université du Manitoba. L'équipe se compose de Trish Farkas (directrice du congrès national), Jon Bahrychuk (coordonnateur à la logistique), Sean Share (coordonnateur de la foire aux carrières/aux exposants et aux commanditaires), Lindsay Maxwell (assistante au coordonnateur de la foire aux carrières/aux exposants et aux commanditaires), Poongodi Sampath (coordonnateur de l'équipe nationale), Felicia Dyck (coordonnatrice de la vente aux enchères de charité), Victoria Kulchycki (coordonnatrice des événements sociaux), Kealy Murray (coordonnatrice des conférenciers) et Courtney Teetaert (coordonnatrice des bénévoles). Nous avons hâte de réunir les étudiant(e)s en sciences infirmières et les professionnels de tout le Canada afin d'apprendre, réseauter et s'inspirer les uns des autres afin d'améliorer la profession d'infirmier(ère). Pour obtenir plus d'informations concernant cette belle occasion, veuillez consulter le site www.cnsa.ca et suivre le lien vers le congrès national. Nous avons hâte de vous voir à Winnipeg.

Trish Farkas

Directrice du congrès national de l'AEIC

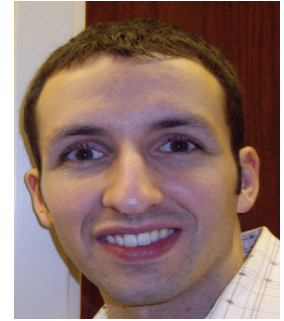
Vice-President Update/ Mise à jour - Vice-Président

Mon nom est Richard Boudreau et je suis le nouveau Vice-président de L'AEIC ainsi que le Directeur de l'éducation inter/intra professionnelle et recherche. Comme c'est le cas pour tous les membres de conseil d'administration, j'ai été élu à ce poste lors du Congrès national tenu l'an dernier à Toronto et j'ai commencé mon mandat d'un an le 1^{er} avril 2007. Dès le début, je me suis préoccupé d'assurer les commandes de la part des commanditaires des années précédentes pour l'octroi de bourses et de participer aux activités quotidiennes de l'AEIC, pour ne nommer que quelques projets dans lesquels je me suis investi cette année. De plus, je suis le président du Comité de planification stratégique qui évalue la façon dont

l'AEIC s'acquitte de ses responsabilités à l'égard de son plan stratégique ainsi que président du Comité des bourses, responsable d'évaluer les demandes et de sélectionner les récipiendaires. Je me réjouis de travailler avec le Conseil d'administration de l'AEIC et ses membres partout au pays et je vous souhaite du succès dans vos études ! N'hésitez pas à communiquer avec moi si vous quelque question que ce soit vous préoccupe.

My name is Richard Boudreau and I am the new CNSA Vice-President & Director of Inter-Intra Professional Education and Research. As is the case for every board member, I was elected into this position at last year's National Conference that was held in Toronto and began my 1 year

term on April 1st, 2007. I've been preoccupied from the start with securing sponsorship from past award sponsors, developing new awards, and participating in day to day CNSA business activities, to mention a few of the projects keeping me busy this year. As well, I am the chair of the Strategic Planning Committee which assesses how CNSA is performing in regard to its strategic plan, and also chair the Awards Committee, which is responsible for assessing award applications and selecting the winners. I look forward to working with the rest of this year's Board of Directors and CNSA members across the country and wish you all success in your academic pursuits! Please do not hesitate to contact me if any of you have any questions.



Richard Boudreau
Vice President/ Director of Inter/Intra Professional Education and Research / Vice-president/ Directeur d'éducation inter/intra-professionnelle et recherche

Western Regional Update / Mise à jour - Région de l'Ouest

My name is Chelsea Albo. I am your Western Regional Director for 2007-2008. I am in my fourth year of my BN degree at the University of Calgary. I also work as an Undergraduate Nursing Employee in Child and Adolescent Mental Health. When I'm not answering emails or doing homework, I enjoy photography, snowboarding, and singing.

Things are definitely looking up in the Western region. We have welcomed a new school, Kwantlen University College (Vancouver, BC), and this brings us to a total of four schools in the West. We also hope to welcome the University of Calgary, Grant MacEwan College (both Registered Psychiatric Nurses and Registered Nurses) and the University of Lethbridge as chapter members this year. We certainly have some hard working delegates in the region and I couldn't be more grateful!

The Western/Prairie Regional conference approached fast. The theme was "One Profession, Many Faces" and it was hosted by the University of Alberta, November 2-3, 2007 in Edmonton. Miss Stephanie Wilkes and her team had worked very hard to stack this conference with exciting speakers and events. For more information, please visit <http://www.cnsawesternconference.com>

Mon nom est Chelsea Albo. Je suis directrice de la région de l'Ouest pour l'année scolaire 2007-2008. Je suis en 4^{ème} année de baccalauréat en sciences infirmières à l'université de Calgary et je travaille aussi en santé mentale pour enfant et adolescent. Lorsque je ne suis pas en train de répondre aux courriels ou de faire mes devoirs, j'aime faire de la photo, de la planche à neige et chanter.

Les choses vont de mieux en mieux dans la région de l'Ouest. Nous avons accueilli une nouvelle école, Kwantlen University College (Vancouver, CB), et cela nous amène à un total de quatre écoles pour la région de l'ouest. Nous espérons également recevoir l'université de Calgary, Grant MacEwan College (toutes les deux étant pour les infirmier(ère)s psychiatriques autoris(e)s et les infirmier(ère)s autoris(e)s) et l'université de Lethbridge comme nouveaux chapitres membres de l'association cette année. Nous avons des délégué(e)s qui travaillent très fort dans notre région et je ne saurais être plus reconnaissante !

Le congrès régional Prairie/Ouest est vite arrivé. Le thème en était « une profession, plusieurs facettes » et elle a été organisée par l'université d'Alberta, les 2 et 3 novembre 2007 à Edmonton. Stéphanie Wilkes et son équipe ont travaillé très dur pour offrir à ce congrès des conférenciers et des événements intéressants. Pour obtenir plus d'informations, veuillez visiter le site <http://www.cnsawesternconference.com>



Chelsea Albo
Western Regional Director / Directrice de la région d'Ouest

New Awards / Nouvelles la bourse

Canadian Association of Nursing Research (CANR) and CNSA Joint Award

The CANR and CNSA Joint Award of \$1000.00 will be awarded for the first time in January 2008 to one student in their second year or higher in a Canadian nursing degree program. Students are invited to submit an Abstract for a paper presentation which will be reviewed by a scientific review committee. The successful student will present their paper (research or non-research based) at the 2008 CNSA National Conference in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**Canadian Nursing Students'
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L'Association des étudiant(e)s
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If you have comments or suggestions please write to: Belinda Pollard CNSA (2007) Publications Officer/
Administratrice des publications at publications@cnsa.ca