

HOURLY BYLAW AUDIT PROGRAM

To maintain eligibility for registration as a practising member a RN must work 1125 hours in the five year period immediately preceding the registration year for which registration is sought. A RN(NP) must work 1800 of which 600 must be in direct clinical practice in the three year period immediately preceding the registration year for which registration is sought. Members are selected at random to participate in the Audit Program. Each year SRNA audits practising RNs and RN(NP)s. The member is provided with a form to sign and forward to their human resource/payroll department authorizing them to complete the form and forward it to the SRNA. Your cooperation in completing the form and returning it to the SRNA is appreciated.

For further information about the RN Audit Program contact Deb Walker at 1-800-667-9945 (Ext. 227) or 359-4227 and for RN(NP)s Bev Veresh at (Ext. 246) or 359-4246.

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**SRNA 2008
Annual
Meeting and
Conference**

**NURSING
TECHNOLOGY
IMPLEMENTING
INNOVATION**

**May 7 - 8, 2008
• Regina Inn •
Regina**

For more information
contact

- 1-800-667-9945
Ext. 228
- 359-4228 (Regina)
- Email:
colson@srna.org

NurseOne

NurseOne is an online resource for registered nurses to access knowledge and research that is up-to-date and reliable.

Provide access to www.NurseOne.ca at work for the latest evidence on best practices.

COMING SOON . . .

GREEN, SIMPLE, SECURE AND FAST . . . SRNA ONLINE REGISTRATION

by Trevor Black, Database Project Manager

SRNAs new online registration service will allow members to renew online and update personal information. This will mean changes to the payment process for employer paid registration fees. If you have any questions, or would like more detail on how this will affect you, please email us at tblack@srna.org or visit our website at www.srna.org.



THE REGISTERED NURSES ACT, 1998, Section 43

“(1) No person shall knowingly employ or continue to employ a person who is not a registered nurse or a graduate nurse to perform the practice of registered nursing.

“(2) Every employer shall annually review the registration status under this Act of all nurses employed by the employer.

“(3) Any employer who terminates the employment of a nurse on the grounds of alleged professional incompetence or professional misconduct shall report in writing to the association:

“(a) the termination of the nurse; and

“(b) the grounds of the alleged professional incompetence or professional misconduct.”

THE ROLE OF THE SENIOR ASSISTANT

Senior assistants are students enrolled in a nursing education program and who are employed by a regional health authority. Employing senior assistants has been a successful recruitment and retention strategy, giving these future professional RNs the opportunity to sample work in a variety of health care settings, and to use some of the skills acquired through their nursing program. It has also given the students a source of income while pursuing their nursing studies. Senior assistants are not regulated and not licensed - they are unregulated care providers (UCPs). In accordance with provincial legislation, the services or care UCPs provide are limited to the provision of client/patient/resident care services. There must be clarity regarding the role of the senior assistant and the knowledge and skills they possess, so that they are utilized appropriately and safe client care is maintained. RNs are responsible for the coordination of client care, and direct the care and tasks performed by the senior assistants through established assignment and delegation processes. Agency policies and clear position descriptions must exist to support the utilization of the senior assistant. For a more detailed resource *Guidelines to Inform the Use of Senior Assistant Roles Within the Health Care Sector* go to: http://www.srna.org/communications/pdf/2007_sr_assistant.pdf

SUPPORT YOUR RNS TO BECOME AN SRNA WORKPLACE REPRESENTATIVE

RN Workplace Representatives are a communication link with the SRNA and its members. Here are some compelling reasons why it is important for you to encourage RNs to join this program. The representatives will:

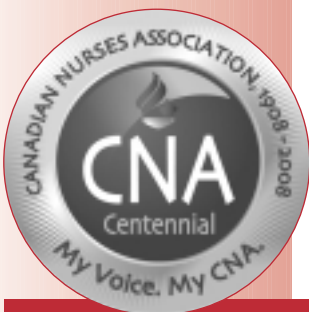
- Learn about the roles, functions and benefits of membership with the SRNA and share this with their colleagues
- Better understand the importance of self-regulation
- Share SRNA resources that promote good nursing practice with their colleagues
- Act as a resource for finding information on NurseOne, a web resource geared to the needs of nurses, and
- Provide mentorship and support to new nurse graduates

Joining the program is easy. RNs volunteer to circulate information to their colleagues regarding upcoming educational events, newly available documents that are RN focused and articles of interest on professional and health care issues. The SRNA holds an annual education day for workplace representatives to discuss SRNA resources. For more information and program forms, please visit our website at www.srna.org under the “Connections” link on the home page or contact Deanna Makarchuk at dmakarchuk@srna.org.

CONTINUING COMPETENCE PROGRAM

Participation in the Continuing Competence program is mandatory for RNs, RN(NP)s and GNs. The employer also has a responsibility to support their employees in continually developing their knowledge and skills. This can be achieved by:

- Asking staff about their learning needs and learning activities that could enhance their practice;
- Providing or facilitating educational opportunities; and
- Accessing the online tutorial for the Continuing Competence Program on the SRNA website.



EXAMINATION DATES

Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE):
June 4, 2008
October 8, 2008
Canadian Nurse Practitioner Examination (CNPE):
May 21, 2008
October 22, 2008

National Nursing Week is May 12 – 18, 2008 and the theme this year is “Think you know nursing: Take a closer look.” Take the opportunity to show your appreciation for your nurses.

Have you checked to ensure your RNs are currently licenced?

SRNA “Outs and Abouts” are Cancelled



SASKATCHEWAN
COLLEGE OF
PHARMACISTS



Call for abstracts - Deadline April 15, 2008
2ND ANNUAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE

“Ensuring Patient Safety with Citizen Engagement”

Radisson Hotel, Saskatoon, September 19 and 20, 2008

The Interdisciplinary Conference Planning Committee invites abstract submissions for paper or poster presentations focused on the “Ensuring Patient Safety with Citizen Engagement” theme. This is an opportunity to attend and present to a provincial audience of health care providers. Presentations should highlight changes that have improved patient safety or demonstrated reductions in risk or harm and/or have successfully utilized citizen engagement. The intent of this session is to advance the dissemination of patient safety with citizen engagement success stories and showcase organizations’ work in patient safety and/or quality, with the hope that others may implement similar changes. Abstracts accepted as papers will be presented on Saturday, September 20, 2008. Poster presentations will be on display throughout the day.

Abstract Guidelines

- Oral presentations: 50 minutes (includes presentation and question period);
Poster presentations: 4 x 8 free standing neutral color bulletin board.
- Abstracts should be no more than 250 words single spaced.
- On page one, include: abstract title, name of presenting author, title, affiliation, mailing address, phone/fax numbers, and e-mail address.
- On page two, include: abstract title, abstract, preferred mode of presentation (paper or poster) and audio-visual requirements. Please include in your abstract how you will address the theme.
- All abstracts must be received at the SRNA no later than 4:00 pm, April 15, 2008. You are encouraged to submit the abstract via e-mail, in Microsoft Word or text format to: colson@srna.org.
- Selected abstracts will be announced in May, 2008.
- All presenters are expected to register for the conference and assume responsibility for registration, accommodations and transportation expenses.

Abstract proposals will be evaluated by a representative abstract selection committee who will be taking into account practicality in implementation, creativity and innovation, interdisciplinary collaboration and transferability across organizations. The committee will also take into account whether it has led to concrete improvements in patient safety, the degree to which citizen engagement was utilized and to what extent it has been tested. Proposals that do not follow the guidelines, are incomplete, or that are received after the deadline will not be considered for review.

Co-hosted by:

Saskatchewan Registered Nurses’ Association (SRNA)
Saskatchewan College of Pharmacists (SCP)
College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CPSS)

THE ROLE OF THE SRNA

The purpose of the SRNA is to protect the public by ensuring registered nurses are safe, competent, ethical practitioners. The SRNA fulfills its mandate by:

- Setting standards of practice for RNs and RN(NP)s
- Approving nursing education programs so that graduates are prepared to meet nursing standards
- Responding to complaints of professional misconduct or incompetence against a registered nurse
- Ensuring registered nurses maintain competence by mandatory compliance with a continuing competence program and by practising a minimum of 1125 hours in five years
- Providing liability protection for all nurses who maintain a practising licence
- Providing practice advisement to RNs and RN(NP)s, and
- Establishing registration and licensure requirements

Graduate Nurse (GN) Licences should be available approximately 15 days after the last day of the student's program.

Recruiting Internationally Educated Nurses? Visit www.srna.org under Registration

Practising membership must be maintained in order to count RN and RN(NP) hours.



Employer Newsbulletin

Published twice yearly in March and September.

Donna Brunskill, RN, Executive Director

Colleen Toye, RN, President

Your feedback is welcome. Contact: Susan Smith Brazill ssmithbrazill@srna.org

GRADUATE NURSE (GN) LICENCES

A GN licence is a temporary, four month licence with two possible four month extensions, available until the GN has passed the Canadian Registered Nurse Examination (CRNE). It is the responsibility of the GN and the employer to be aware of the expiry date of the GN licence.

To extend the GN licence, SRNA requires a written request from the GN and the applicable fee:

- 1st Extension: Letter directly from the employer to the SRNA confirming the GN's employment will be extended and that he/she is practising at a safe and competent level for a GN.
- 2nd Extension: Reference questionnaire completed by the employer and returned directly to the SRNA and a declaration that the GN has completed the CCP self assessment, obtained feedback and developed a learning plan. **To verify a GN's registration** contact 359-4227 or 1-800- 667-9945 (Ext.227) with the GN's registration number or date of birth and social insurance number.

NOTIFICATION TO NURSE MANAGERS OF GN EXPIRY DATE

GNs are given a note attached to their licence stating: "Expiry date: _____ Please notify Nurse Manager." Managers, please ensure you receive this notification.

Even though a GN has passed the CRNE, he/she is not eligible to work as a RN until he/she has obtained RN licensure.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. SRNA randomly audits nurses to ensure they have maintained the required practise hours
2. Your role as an employer is to:
 - a. verify RNs are currently licenced to practise, and
 - b. notify the SRNA if an RN employee is terminated
3. SRNA randomly audits nurses to ensure they are in compliance with continuing competence requirements.

SRNA PRACTICE ADVISORS

The SRNA practice advisors are available for consultation on professional practice issues for RNs and RN(NP)s. This confidential service is designed to enhance and promote safe, ethical and competent practice. Practice advisors provide information about the services and the mandate of the Association, as well as provide advice and guidance to address identified problems in practice. If the issue is not within the mandate of the SRNA, we will refer to other resources.

To contact a Practice Advisor with a question, concern or issue call: 1-800-667-9945 Ext. 237 • 359-4237 (Regina) • Email: dcummings@srna.org

CELEBRATING OUR RN LEADERS AWARDS BANQUET

The Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association believes that employers can play a major role in supporting nurses to attend their professional association's annual meeting and conference, especially in this challenging time. The event is scheduled for May 7 & 8, 2008 at the Regina Inn, Regina. It promises to be an invigorating and informative event. We invite your participation.

Our Annual Meeting is on May 7, followed by a celebration of the achievements of our registered nurses. The Awards Banquet rounds out the day. **Purchase a table of eight at the banquet for \$380.00.** Our conference, Nursing Technology Implementing Innovation, takes place on May 8.

We look forward to your support. To purchase tickets or for more information contact Deanna Makarchuk at dmakarchuk@srna.org.