

Council Notes

The 12 members of SRNA Council met for the annual three-day Council retreat, August 28 to 30, 2018. The following is an overview of the discussions that occurred and decisions that were made.

Breakfast with the Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses (SALPN)

On the first day of their meeting, Council was invited to join SALPN board members for a breakfast hosted at the SALPN office in Regina. Discussions centred around nursing regulation trends here in Saskatchewan, nationally and globally. After breakfast, SALPN facilitated a tour of their office for Council members.

Truth and Reconciliation

Council, along with SRNA staff, were honoured to participate in a traditional Blanket Ceremony facilitated by All Nation's Hope Network. The afternoon-long ceremony had participants stand on blankets representative of the lands inhabited by Indigenous people that eventually became Canada. As the ceremony progressed, facilitators led the group through a historical journey including the treaty-making process, residential schools and other significant events that have impacted Canada's Indigenous people. At the conclusion, a powerful and emotion-filled sharing circle allowed all participants to debrief and reflect on the realities that were presented. The Blanket Ceremony was a significant learning experience for all participants.

Environmental Scan & Foresighting

Ahead of Council's strategic planning sessions, SRNA staff provided an environmental scan to Council containing current information in 13 subject areas including: Political/Economic, Nursing Regulation, Indigenous Health, Medical Assistance in Dying, Medical/Legalizing Cannabis, Mental Health, Harm Reduction, Nursing Leadership, Primary Health Care, Public Engagement/Education, Quality and Patient Safety, Professional Practice and Seniors Health. Out of these 13 subject areas, Council identified three areas of particular interest/importance to focus on for the foresighting exercise that followed. These areas were Nursing Regulation, Professional Practice and Nursing Leadership.

During the foresighting exercise Council split into three groups where they considered the possible, plausible and probable futures of their assigned subject areas. Using a futures thinking process called the 'Futures Triangle', groups were directed to explore the three dimensions that shape plausible futures: the weight of the past, the push of the present and the pull of the future. Afterward each group presented the highlights of their insights to the larger group and there was an opportunity for further discussion. This exercise resulted in robust dialogue and enhanced perspective on what the future of nursing regulation, professional practice and nursing leadership could look like with Council direction.

ENDs Policy Review

Council reaffirmed all existing policies as follows:

Policy 1 Mission: RNs and RN(NP)s are leaders in contributing to a healthy population.

Policy 1.1 Profession-led Regulation: Accountable, effective, transparent profession-led regulation in the public interest.

Policy 1.2 Excellence in Professional Practice: Excellence in professional practice.

Policy 1.2.1 Individual and Family-Centred Care: RNs and RN(NP)s practice safe, competent, ethical, and culturally appropriate individual and family-centred care.

Policy 1.2.2 Legislated Scope: RNs and RN(NP)s understand their role and practice within their full legislated scope.

Policy 1.2.3 Primary Health Care: RNs and RN(NP)s integrate Primary Health Care (PHC) principles into all practice settings.

Policy 1.2.4 Demonstrate Nursing Leadership: RNs and RN(NP)s demonstrate nursing leadership.

Policy 1.3 Integral Partners in Health: RNs and RN(NP)s are integral partners in health.

Policy 1.3.1 Articulation of Roles: RNs and RN(NP)s articulate and demonstrate their role(s).

Policy 1.3.2 Advocating for Evidence-Informed Practice: RNs and RN(NP)s advocate for evidence-informed practice.

Policy 1.3.3 Influencing Public Policy: RNs and RN(NP)s are leaders in influencing healthy public policy, including seniors health, mental health, and Indigenous health.

Report from the President

President Joanne Petersen reported on her activities since the last Council meeting in June. In mid-June Joanne attended the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). On June 16, at the CNA Board of Directors meeting, she was joined by fellow Council members Ashley and Betty as observers at CNA House and later as guests at the Canadian Nurses Foundation reception the following evening. On June 18 at the CNA Meeting of the Members, Joanne was thrilled to be present for the historic vote to open the CNA membership to all regulated nurses. The following week, on June 26, she attended the Canadian Community Health Nurses (CCHN) and Canadian Indigenous Nurses Association (CINA) joint preconference education day in Regina themed “Towards Reconciliation: Partnering for Health Equity”, where she had the opportunity to participate in a traditional pipe ceremony to open the day. Joanne was also very happy to announce that she was chosen to participate in a working group with the Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI) on a modest revision to their Safety Competencies document from 2008 aimed to be completed by the end of September 2018.

Update from the Executive Director

Outgoing SRNA Executive Director, Carolyn Hoffman presented her final report to Council via zoom. Some of the updates she provided with the help of Interim ED, Jayne Naylen Horbach included:

- Work to address the backlog of Internationally Educated Nursing (IEN) applications is well underway in coordination with the ONCIEN program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic

- The Regulatory Services department welcomed a new permanent Investigator, Amanda Haas, RN, in addition to two external RN contractors, which see the Investigations team now fully staffed.
- Work has begun to standardize the process for resolving cases of members practising without a licence.
- The SRNA 2018 Regulatory Bylaws submitted to the Ministry in late June 2018 will be signed by the Minister the first week of September.
- The RN(NP) Prescribing for Opioid Use Disorder and Methadone for Pain Advisory Committee has been established to support the development of SRNA Council Policy, which is expected to be submitted for approval in later 2018 or early 2019.
- Consultations are underway for an update to the definition of Common Medical Disorders in General Practice with the anticipated submission to Council at their November 2018 meeting.
- The SRNA Online Communities of Practice are off to a great start ahead of the formal launch expected this fall.
- There is a new Mental Health SRNA Professional Practice Group that officially launches on September 1, 2018. The group's objectives include: reducing stigma of mental illness, advocating for improved mental health care services, creating mentally healthy workplaces and promoting mental health and wellness for Saskatchewan citizens.
- The SRNA Strategic Plan for 2018-2020 will be disseminated in early fall 2018.
- Key SRNA staff are in the early stages of planning for the creation of a Patient & Family Advisory Committee, which will advise and inform Council's strategic directions as well as inform key regulatory and association initiatives.

Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRN) Update

President Elect, Warren Koch, attended CCRNR's Strategic Planning Meeting on June 28, 2018 in Toronto and updated Council on recent activities of CCRNR. Some of the updates that he provided included:

- The CCRNR Working Group for new RN Entry Level Competencies (ELCs) is progressing with a shift towards a roles-based approach with: RN as clinician, educator, scholar, advocate, leader, professional, communicator, collaborator and organizer/facilitator. The final draft will be circulated nationally in fall 2018 for finalization at which point each jurisdiction will decide on approval.
- The CCRNR NP Regulation Practices Project Working Group includes SRNA representative, Donna Cooke, RN(NP) and has work underway to define specific priorities and processes for advancing the harmonization of NP regulatory frameworks across Canada.

ONCIEN Program Approval

The Nursing Education Program Approval Committee (NEPAC) provided a briefing to Council in request of a decision for the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Orientation to Nursing in Canada for Internationally Educated Nurses (ONCIEN) Program and the RN Nursing Re-entry (NRE) Program. The brief was presented by former Executive Director, Carolyn Hoffman. Council carried a motion to accept the recommendations of the NEPAC and granted approval to both programs for a period of four years. The programs will be required to submit progress/annual reports to the NEPAC with the first update scheduled for August 1, 2019.