

## What you need to know: BC College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP)

The official launch of our new nursing college is just a few weeks away. On September 4, 2018, the BC College of Nursing Professionals will regulate all nurses in BC: Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), Nurse Practitioners (NPs), Registered Nurses (RNs), and Registered Psychiatric Nurses (RPNs).

A huge amount of work has been done, and continues to happen, to make the transition to the new college as seamless as possible for nurses, employers, schools of nursing and other stakeholders. With a few exceptions, there should be minimal disruption.

Below is information about what to expect over the coming weeks: what's changing, what is not, and how it will impact you.

### What is NOT changing with BCCNP

- **Registration status:** All nurses' current registration will be automatically transferred to BCCNP Only Interim registration will be referred to by a different name: "provisional RPN registration" (see #4 below for more information).
- **Nursing designations:** The four nursing designations—LPN, NP, RN and RPN—will remain distinct.
- **Standards of Practice and Scope of Practice:** Professional Standards, Practice Standards and Scope of Practice Standards for each of the four designations are not changing.
- **Application, registration and renewal requirements:** Requirements will remain the same. More information about registration renewal for each designation will be shared in the fall.
- **Current Recognition Status of Nursing Education Programs and Standards for Program Recognition:** Existing program recognition will carry over to the new college, as will the standards.
- **Complaints investigations:** All open investigations will be transferred to BCCNP. No changes will be made to how complaints are investigated. There will be a single portal for submitting complaints to the new college.
- **Practice consultation:** Practice consultation for each of the four designations will continue to be available.
- **Public register:** Verification of nurses' registration status will continue to be publicly available.

### What IS changing with BCCNP

#### 1) Website

On September 4, the BCCNP website will go live and our current website will

redirect to this new site. This means links to existing CRPNBC resources that you may have bookmarked, or have embedded in your educational, HR, curriculum or other materials, will be changing.

We will share a “link map” in early September that provides the corresponding new links to existing resources. Rest assured, all of the content that is currently on the CRPNBC site will be transferred to the new BCCNP site.

## **2) Notice of employer address on public register**

The BCCNP public register, in addition to displaying a nurse’s name and registration status, will also display your primary employer address. This is a change for RPNs. If you have a valid reason for excluding your primary employer from the public register, please contact the office.

## **3) Your registration number**

Starting September 4, 2018, all current CRPNBC registrants will have a prefix added to their registration number in our database (except for Employed Student Psychiatric Nurses who will receive new numbers). This is to avoid duplication in registration numbers. Although there will be distinct classes of registration for each nursing designation (LPN, NP, RN and RPN), the public will be able to search for any nurse in BC through one portal, so we need to be able to distinguish RPNs who may have the same registration number as a nurse from another profession. More information will be provided closer to the time.

## **4) Interim registration becomes Provisional registration**

Due to the new BCCNP bylaws, what CRPNBC currently refers to as “Interim registration” will become known as “provisional RPN registration” as of September 4, 2018. The conditions for provisional RPN registration for those who are waiting to write the Registered Psychiatric Nurses of Canada Examination will, however, remain the same: *may only work shifts during which there is an RPN or RN present in the same unit or service; may not be in charge of a unit or service.* Any future changes will be duly communicated to all registrants.

## **5) Change in Criminal Record Checks Process**

The processing of criminal record checks required by the *Criminal Records Review Act* will become automated starting in September 2018. With your consent, BCCNP will request and receive a criminal record check directly from the Ministry of Justice. We will seek your consent to do this during the renewal process in January 2019. For registrants who need a criminal record check between September 2018 and renewal, we will be contacting you by email during the summer months to obtain your consent. Information about [criminal record checks](#) can be found on our website.

## **6) Continuing Competence Program (CCP)**

The next CCP cycle will be from January 1<sup>st</sup> to February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, instead of being in the fall as in previous years. In BCCNP the CCP form will be contained within the registration renewal process. Also, due to changes in the proposed Bylaws, the name

of the program will be changing to the Quality Assurance Program. Further information on the new process will be provided closer to the time. Information on the current [Continuing Competence Program](#) can be found on our website.

### **7) Online Services**

CRPNBC's registrant portal *My Record* will be changing to a new platform from September 4, 2018, which will be called *Online Services*. Closer to the time, we will be contacting all registrants with instructions on how to access it.

### **8) Service Interruptions**

As we need to migrate all the data from *My Record* into *Online Services*, our IT systems will be down from close of business on August 24 to close of business on September 4, 2018. During this time, we will not be accepting online applications for registration or status changes:

- **New applicants** will not be able to submit an Initial application or First Registration application
- **Registrants and former registrants** will not be able to submit applications to change their registration status

Any applications started before the closure date but not submitted will be lost and you will need to start again when the BCCNP system is up and running.

### **9) Office Closure**

The CRPNBC office will be permanently closed to walk-ins beginning Monday, August 27, 2018. During the week of August 27<sup>th</sup>, we will continue to be available by phone or email and provide the following essential services, although there may be some delay in processing requests:

- Access to the online public register for nurse verification
- Emergency registration
- Acceptance of complaints
- Practice consultation

### **10) Contacting BCCNP**

The new college will be located at #900 - 200 Granville Street in Vancouver. More detailed contact information will be available in late August.

More information will be posted on our website as it becomes available. Please contact the [College office](#) if you have any questions, or email [CEOs@onenursingcollege.ca](mailto:CEOs@onenursingcollege.ca).

We want to thank all of our partners and stakeholders for their input, patience and support as we embark on this exciting new phase in health care regulation.