

# In Touch

THE LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES  
ASSOCIATION OF BC  
SUMMER 2010 NEWSLETTER



## From the President's Pen



I (Richelle Drinovz) was elected your new president at the spring AGM held in Chilliwack. Since that time, I have felt a whirlwind of emotions. All of which have been positive! I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to represent and advocate for my profession. I not only have a duty to myself; but for upwards of 11,000 current registrants. For that I am honored.

I have belonged to the Fraser Valley Chapter of the association for two years. However, I have to familiarize myself with the roll the association plays across the province now. What better way than to attend the CLPNBC's annual general meeting. As exhibitors, Anita Wilson and I represented the

LPNABC, complete with gift baskets to give away! Record numbers of LPN's attended, and the association was well received.

It was a great opportunity to network with public and private institutions that teach the PN program. Individual opinions on program length, content, mentorship and where priorities lay within the program itself was as diverse as the Colleges themselves. It was truly fascinating just how unique each

*"There are countless changes coming to our scope of practice.... and the association will be there on your behalf every step of the way!!!"*

campus viewed the Practical Nurse program. We (the association) essentially opened up dialogue for the future. To solidify perhaps a common mentorship program that new grads can turn to throughout the province. We can only take one step at a time, and that was successful-

ly accomplished at the AGM.

Following the educational component for the day, I was able to introduce myself to the board of directors of the CLPNBC. I also met a few consultants that work on behalf of the college. They are there to answer questions, and were very receptive with the numerous amounts I had. The day was very victorious for the association all around.

Since the College AGM in June, I have been keeping the dialogue open with our licensure. This is to hopefully build a strong relationship as we the association advocate for our ever increasing scope of practice.

I look forward to many round table discussions as we propose once again to lengthen the PN program to our Health Minister. There are countless changes coming to our scope of practice.... and the association will be there on your behalf every step of the way!!!

Respectfully submitted by  
Richelle Drinovz Your New  
President

### Did you know?

- THE LPNABC IS AN ALL VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION COMPRISED OF HARD WORKING LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES WHO JUGGLE THEIR NURSING CAREERS, FAMILY, AND LPNABC VOLUNTEER WORK

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# In Touch

## Spring 2010 LPNABC AGM



Dr. Gordon Grills speaking about what's new in diabetes.

The Fraser Valley Chapter put together an impressive AGM this past April in Chilliwack complete with beautiful gift baskets, several door prizes, and remarkable guest speakers who gave great thought provoking presentations.

This year's information session "What's New in Diabetes" was an excellent opportunity to learn about the newest products, tests, treatments, and medical advancements in diabetes. Dr. Gordon Grills had a fantastic presentation complete with case scenarios,

statistics, and graphics. He even answered several questions from the audience throughout the session.

Shirley Slind RN BSN CDE and Theresa Dillon RD CDE gave a very interesting presentation about the newest diabetes products and insulins and also about how to make the best dietary choices by reading product labels.

The Annual General Meeting began after lunch and began with the election of Richelle Drinovz as President and Joann St. Pierre as Recording

Secretary. It followed by the discussion of new business, the future of the LPNABC, and the reading of reports.

The LPNABC's 2010 AGM and Information Session was an excellent opportunity to meet other LPNs from across the province, get involved in the Association, and learn about what's new in diabetes. Thank you to the Fraser Valley Chapter for working so hard to host this year's event and to the presenters who shared their knowledge of diabetes.

## VIHA Practice Alert

Issue: The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC (CLPNBC) has posted new Practice Guidelines on their website. These Guidelines identify competencies that are not presently included in the LPN educational curriculum.

Specifically, these include:

- Initiation, and discontinuing of blood products;
- Initiating a peripheral infusion device/ site; and
- Administration of intravenous medication.

There are plans to include these competencies in the 2011 LPN curriculum and implement them nationally in 2012 – 13.

Implications: The new Practice Guidelines on the CLPNBC website are not identified as future competencies. This may cause confusion and potential risk for clients/ patients/ residents, LPN's, and other health professionals.

Actions: VIHA will: Monitor LPN scope of practice and may consider expanding scope when further infor-

mation, education, and resources are available, and if it makes sense within our health authority context.

Professional Practice will: Inform CLPNBC and the Ministry of Health of VIHA's concerns with posting these competencies in the form of entry level Practice Guidelines at this time.

Managers are asked to: Inform their leadership teams & staff that LPN scope of practice in VIHA does not include the new competencies as outlined above.

"THE NEW PRACTICE GUIDELINES ON THE CLPNBC WEBSITE ARE NOT IDENTIFIED AS FUTURE COMPETENCIES. THIS MAY CAUSE CONFUSION AND POTENTIAL RISK FOR CLIENTS/ PATIENTS/ RESIDENTS, LPN'S, AND OTHER HEALTH PROFESSIONALS."

## Fraser Health Practice Alert

Issue: Please note that the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC (CLPNBC) has posted new Practice Guidelines on their website which

identify competencies that are not presently included in the LPNs' educational curriculum. These include:

- Initiation, and discontinu-

ing of blood products

- Administration of intravenous medications

These are not identified as

## Fraser Health Practice Alert Continued

future competencies.

Implications: These and other competencies are being developed nationally for implementation in 2010-2013 and will be included in the 2011 LPN curriculum. However, there is no applicable education available at this time for new or practicing LPNs.

The new Practice Guidelines posted are not identified as future competencies and their presence on the CLPNBC website may cause confusion regarding current LPN practice scope.

Based on previous experience with implementation of the revised LPN scope, there is a potential risk to patients/clients/residents, LPNs, other health professionals with this type of a gap.

A comprehensive and coordinated implementation process, including determining which activities would be implemented when, and where, will be required.

Actions: Fraser Health Professional Practice has voiced concerns to CLPNBC and the Ministry of Health regarding posting these competencies in the form of entry level Practice Guidelines at this time.

Fraser Health will continue with the current LPN scope of practice (ie FH LPN CAPE Tool February 2010) until further information and provincial/regional infrastructure and education is available and resulting decisions and implementations plans are determined.

Rationale: Quality and safety

in health care will be best facilitated through a consistent and province wide approach to implementing the new LPN competencies, including:

- A structured clinical education component for LPNs to learn and practice the new competencies in simulated situations before applying them in the chosen clinical setting(s).
- Regional evidence-informed protocols/practice guidelines that specify the expected standards of safe, competent and ethical care.
- A comprehensive communication plan identifying a phased in approach.

### LPNs

Visit CLPNBC's website at [www.clpnbc.org](http://www.clpnbc.org) for more information.

## Increased Benefits for LPNABC Members

The Licensed Practical Nurses Association, in cooperation with American Income Life Insurance Company, is pleased to announce that we are providing additional benefits to make your membership even more valuable! These benefits include:

• \$3,500 Group Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefit at NO COST!

Vision Care Discount Card which provides discounts on Vision Care, at NO COST for your entire household!

Child Safe Kits – this valuable tool can provide information to the authorities if your child or grandchild should ever go missing!

Please check your mail for the letter regarding these new benefits!

Once you return the response card, an AIL representative will set up a convenient time to deliver your benefits and explain additional insurance coverage available.

American Income Life is an international company li-

censed in 49 States, the District of Columbia, Canada and New Zealand and is a large provider of supplemental benefits in North America. AIL has earned an A+ (Superior) Financial Strength rating from A.M. Best Company. (as of 6/10)

For more information on your benefits, please contact (Fran Christie) @ (1-877)531-5773, or email [fchristie@ailife.com](mailto:fchristie@ailife.com)

To view the letter on-line, visit <http://www.ailife.com/benefits/sg6z1>

“WE ARE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO MAKE YOUR MEMBERSHIP EVEN MORE VALUABLE!”

# In Touch

## Profile of a Nurse: Richelle Drinovz



Richelle Drinovz (center) is the new President of the Licensed Practical Nurses Association of BC

Richelle is a 41 year old married mother of two daughters ages 10 and 7. She has lived in Chilliwack for 12 years. Prior to that, lived in Richmond, where she met her husband Greg.

Born and raised in Calgary Alberta, Richelle always knew she wanted to go into nursing. However, after applying three separate occasions with 3 to 4 year wait lists each time, it never came together. With her family to provide the incentive a fourth time; Richelle looked around at private Colleges. What could it hurt? The rest was history. In the fall of 2006 the PN program would start.

Three months into the PN program Richelle would go on

her first practicum. It was there she would meet her preceptor Anita Wilson. "I am so privileged to have met Anita; she has mentored me in so many ways! This is how I learned about the associa-

*"I am so privileged to be a part of an organization that can speak on behalf of all LPN's."*

tion, and have been a member ever since!"

Richelle currently is able to use her skills on an acute ward in the Chilliwack Hospital. "It feels like a big family on the unit, we honestly work

as a team, it is wonderful!" As far as the association, Richelle and Anita both belong to the Fraser Valley chapter, which is active throughout the year. Most currently, a get together barbeque at one of the member's homes!

"I am so privileged to be a part of an organization that can speak on behalf of all LPN's. I would not be in this position if it were not for one individual: Anita Wilson. She continues to introduce students to the association, as she did for me! What I am most grateful for is to call her my friend."

Respectfully submitted by Richelle Drinovz

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### MISSION

LPNABC PROMOTES PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE AND LIFE LONG LEARNING WITH STRENGTH THROUGH A UNIFIED VOICE REPRESENTING THE LPNS OF BC

### Provincial Board Members

President: Richelle Drinovz, [motherv@shaw.ca](mailto:motherv@shaw.ca)

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