

Fall 2018

# IN FOCUS

A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF STATE BOARDS OF NURSING



## NCSBN Celebrates its Ruby Red 40th Anniversary



Inside this Issue: Nursing Regulation in New Zealand / NCLEX Testing Center Updates / Karen Scipio-Skinner Reflects on Leadership



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Founded March 15, 1978, as an independent not-for-profit organization, NCSBN was created to lessen the burdens of state governments and bring together boards of nursing (BONs) to act and counsel together on matters of common interest. NCSBN's membership is comprised of the BONs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories — American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands and the Virgin Islands. There are three exam user members. There are also 28 associate members that are either nursing regulatory bodies or empowered regulatory authorities from other countries or territories.

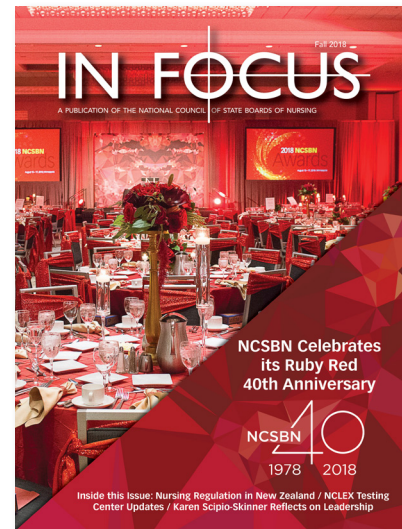
NCSBN Member Boards protect the public by ensuring that safe and competent nursing care is provided by licensed nurses. These BONs regulate more than 4.8 million licensed nurses.

Mission: NCSBN provides education, service and research through collaborative leadership to promote evidence-based regulatory excellence for patient safety and public protection.

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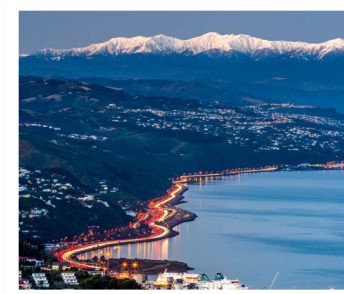
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*By Lori Scheidt, MBA-HCM, executive director of the Missouri State Board of Nursing and a director-at-large on NCSBN's Board of Director*



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# Nursing Council of NEW ZEALAND

Te Kaunihera Tapuhi o Aotearoa



By: Carolyn Reed,  
MA, RN, FCNA  
Chief Executive/  
Registrar  
Nursing Council of  
New Zealand

Kia ora koutou katoa (greetings, hello to you all) from Aotearoa New Zealand.

## **The regulatory body for New Zealand nurses**

The Nursing Council of New Zealand is the only regulatory body for New Zealand nurses. This means we do not have the same issues that our American, Canadian and Australian colleagues have as you try to negotiate your way through complex state and regional legislative differences.

The upside of being a single nurse regulator in a small country is that we have a finite number of stakeholders and less legislative and political complexity. The downside is it can be isolated and lonely, so we work hard to stay connected to our international friends and colleagues. We value you enormously as you are vitally important to us! You provide us with camaraderie and support, but more importantly you help us keep abreast of international thinking. International collaboration is invaluable when we seek to test ideas, share resources and learn from others' successes and failures. Our international colleagues are an important part of our strategy to ensure that the regulatory environment is evidence based, 'right touch', nimble and flexible in today's rapidly changing practise environment.

Our legislative mandate is to protect the health and safety of members of the public by ensuring nurses are competent and fit to practise their profession. Registered nurses in our country must renew their licence to practise annually. We have 56,500 practising nurses for our population of 4.6 million people. Our nurses work in one of three scopes of practice: nurse practitioner, registered nurse or enrolled nurse.

## **Our recent achievements**

We have undertaken some extraordinary projects in the last 10 years. We've developed a new Code of Conduct that accurately reflects the challenges and responsibilities of New Zealand nurses. We've reviewed our nurse practitioner scope of practice, reformulating it with a clear focus on the unique health needs of our population. It reflects the status of nurse practitioners as independent practitioners, who now have the same prescriptive authority as their medical practitioner colleagues.

Photos by: Rob Suisted  
Photos courtesy of:  
100% Pure New Zealand





Photo by: Rob Suisted

We have reintroduced enrolled nursing. We have implemented two prescribing models for registered nurses. Registered nurse prescribing aims to support areas of the country where there is the most health inequity and need.

**Our cultural identity is important to us** Aotearoa New Zealand has a commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi). This is an important founding agreement made between representatives of the British Crown and Māori leaders in 1840.

The purpose of the Treaty was to enable the British settlers and the Māori people to live together in New Zealand under a common set of laws or agreements.

The Nursing Council requires all nurses to understand our bicultural history and the impact colonisation has had on the health of New Zealand Māori. Providing cultural safety for patients is important for our nurses. Feeling that their cultural needs are met by health care providers is key to patient experience, and our nurses do an extraordinary job of delivering this.

**Our values inform our decisions** We believe in right touch regulation. This means setting standards and managing issues in a way that is fair, transparent and reasonable.

We are proud that our legislation enables us to manage health, competence and conduct issues separately and from a rehabilitative stance. We are also proud of the way our legislation provides for an external independent Disciplinary Tribunal. This means that decisions on the most serious issues of conduct are considered by professional peers and members of the public and that there is consistency across all the health professions.

Of course, right touch regulation also means removing from the profession those nurses who have shown themselves to be unsuitable to nurse by their conduct.

We place a lot of value on our relationships with our stakeholders. Without the respect and trust of the various stakeholders, especially our professional peers, our job would be a lot harder.

**We welcome your insights** Would you like our perspective on an issue you're grappling with? Do you have suggestions we could benefit from? We'd love to hear from you. You can email me directly at [carolyn@nursingcouncil.org.nz](mailto:carolyn@nursingcouncil.org.nz).

*Carolyn Reed, MA, RN, FCNA, brings a lifetime career in nursing practice and education to her role. She started her nursing career at Nelson Hospital and worked as a nurse for 15 years. She has a Bachelor of Arts with a double major in nursing and education, and a Master of Arts (Nursing) (with Distinction). Carolyn moved into nursing education at the Nelson-Marlborough Institute of Technology, where she rose through a range of teaching and management roles to the position of Dean of the Health and Social Sciences faculty. She moved to Wellington in 2005 to become the Council's Education Advisor, then was appointed Chief Executive and Registrar in February 2009.*



## Being a Good Listener: Karen Scipio-Skinner Reflects on Leadership and Service

*The Leadership Succession Committee (LSC) hosts a series of Leadership Succession Calls, focusing on promoting leadership engagement through thoughtful discussion with NCSBN leaders.*

The Leadership Succession call this quarter was held July 18 with Karen Scipio-Skinner, MSN, RN, executive director of the District of Columbia Board of Nursing (DCBON). Scipio-Skinner has decades of nursing regulation, operations and board governance experience. She has served as executive director of the DCBON since 2002 and is currently completing her second term as member-at-large on the NCSBN Board of Directors. A graduate of North Carolina A&T University and The Catholic University of America, she began her career as a psychiatric nurse and has served in numerous leadership positions, including as director of staff development and training supervisor for quality.

Scipio-Skinner has been very active on committees, boards and commissions throughout her career, and served as chair of NCSBN's Executive Officer Leadership Council, board member for the National Capital Area YWCA, and on the governing board for the Alliance for Ethical International Recruitment Practice. Scipio-Skinner also served for 15 years on the DCBON Board of Directors.

Scipio-Skinner began the conversation by expressing her appreciation and gratitude

for the opportunity to serve on the NCSBN Board of Directors (BOD). She referred to her time on the BOD as one of the highlights of her career and praised the current Board's blend of experience and expertise, highlighting that not all members are nurses, but all bring a unique perspective to the issues that come before the Board.


Asked about effective leadership, Scipio-Skinner shared what she considered a common denominator. "I think in any leadership position, especially one that is public facing, it is important to be a good listener," she said. "It's essential that you're prepared to listen. The more active the board, the more responsibilities for the members."

In a discussion around the duties of serving, Scipio-Skinner acknowledged there are sacrifices. Materials must be reviewed prior to meetings, and she must be prepared to ask questions and contribute meaningful ideas to the discussion. "But it's doable," she said. "When it's something that's important to you and something you enjoy doing, you find the time." To prepare for meetings, she reads materials whenever she can squeeze in the time — on the weekend, at the airport, on the plane, in the hotel.

NCSBN's Leadership Succession Committee contributes the *Pathways To Leadership* feature. There are many leadership paths and opportunities for members of NCSBN to support professional development. Learn more through the [NCSBN Leadership Development Program](#) and [watch our video](#) to learn how you can benefit personally and professionally by becoming involved with NCSBN (ncsbn.org username and password required).



Decisions by the board will ultimately impact not only the nursing personnel, but the facilities in which they work; and more importantly, the patients they care for. With this in mind, Scipio-Skinner added that it is important to know your customers. All points of view should be considered before coming to a final decision.

Scipio-Skinner encouraged all members to become actively involved with NCSBN. "I've found that it's important to have as many active board and staff members as possible," she explained. Active involvement not only benefits your organization, but your personal/professional development as well. She also suggested that anyone considering a leadership position on the BOD familiarize themselves with NCSBN's mission and vision, consider volunteering as a committee member and attending meetings and conferences. There are also informative webinars, videos and other resources, available on the NCSBN website. 


## NCSBN's Global Regulatory Atlas Charts the Nursing Regulatory Landscape

This comprehensive online compendium of nursing regulation worldwide was created with the assistance of health care regulators across the globe. The atlas currently holds information from more than 200 jurisdictions representing more than 17.5 million nurses, and new jurisdictions are continually being added.



## Pearson VUE Testing Center Updates

Pearson VUE, the NCLEX® testing vendor, is dedicated to serving the needs of their clients and providing NCSBN with the highest level of efficient, quality service. One of the ways Pearson VUE achieves this goal is through enhancements to their Pearson Professional Centers (PPCs). Annually, Pearson VUE participates in an evaluation process to ensure that necessary capacity at the PPCs is available to accommodate anticipated testing volume.

2018 PPC enhancements include the development of 36 new PPCs (24 in the U.S., 11 in Canada and one in Australia), as well as the addition of seats at 13 existing test centers. When individual sites are completed, updates are made available to boards of nursing/regulatory bodies detailing the new enhancements. 



## Speed Round

**Get to know NCSBN staff:**

**Bridget Byrne, Coordinator, Marketing & Communications**

### What do you do?

I work as the coordinator for the Marketing & Communications department. My role consists of a variety of responsibilities, such as assisting in the editing of all marketing and meetings materials, coordinating the production of exhibiting materials, and assisting with onsite meeting management and registration.

### What are the best and most challenging aspects of your job?

There are so many things that I love about my job, such as the people I work with, travel opportunities and the ability to work not only with marketing, but with our meetings department as well. The best aspect is that I am always working on something different, and because of that I am continuously learning new things. The most challenging aspect of my job has been handling multiple projects at once, and knowing what needs to be prioritized.

### If you weren't working at NCSBN, what would your dream job be?

I've always dreamt of becoming a forensic scientist!





Photos by Tricia Koning Photography. To view more photos from the event visit our [Flickr page](#).

# REGULATORY EXCELLENCE

## ▪ SURGING TOWARD ▪

# THE FUTURE



The 2018 NCSBN Annual Meeting was held in Minneapolis Aug. 15–17, giving attendees the opportunity to meet and network with nursing regulators from all over the country. There were 59 member boards represented by delegates at the meeting during which important regulatory issues were discussed and pertinent association business was conducted.

This year's Annual Meeting was special, as NCSBN celebrated 40 years of regulatory excellence, its ruby anniversary. Thursday evening's Awards Dinner attendees were encouraged to wear red and they did not disappoint. The reception beforehand and the dinner in the ballroom were stunning sights to see, everyone dressed to the nines creating a sea of ruby red!

NCSBN's new Board of Directors (BOD) President Julia George, MSN, RN, FRE, executive director, North Carolina Board of Nursing, noted, "Our 2018 Delegate Assembly with its theme of 'Surging Toward the Future,' was very inspiring as we celebrated our 40th anniversary and reflected on our organizational history. It was also very timely as we will start our strategic planning cycle later this year. As I begin my term as president, I am honored to be a part of our strategic thinking and planning for the future, and look forward to working with all of our members."

Highlights of significant actions approved by member boards of nursing (BONs) at the Annual Meeting included:

- Approval of the terms and conditions of NCSBN Exam User membership;
- Approval of the College of Registered Nurses of British Columbia, the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba and the College of Nurses of Ontario as exam user members;
- Approval of the National Center for Independent Examination (NCIE) - Kazakhstan as an associate member of NCSBN;
- Election of new members of the NCSBN BOD and Leadership Succession Committee;
- Adoption of the 2019 NCLEX-RN Test Plan; and
- Approval to convene a forum of state board regulators with expertise in APRN issues to investigate the challenges BONs are experiencing in relation to the implementation of the APRN Consensus Model, and to report on these findings to the 2019 Delegate Assembly.

Member boards also elected new members of the NCSBN BOD. Those elected include:

**President-elect**

Jim Cleghorn, MA, executive officer, Georgia Board of Nursing

**Directors-at-Large**

Cathy Borris-Hale, MHA, RN, board staff, District of Columbia Board of Nursing

Elizabeth Lund, MSN, RN, executive director, Tennessee Board of Nursing

Mark Majek, MA, PHR, SHRM-CP, board staff, Texas Board of Nursing

Lori Scheidt, MBA-HCM, executive director, Missouri State Board of Nursing

Jay Douglas, MSM, RN, CSAC, FRE, executive director, Virginia Board of Nursing, was appointed Area III director to fill the position vacated by the election of Jim Cleghorn to the president-elect position.

**NCSBN delegates also elected members of the Leadership Succession Committee (LSC):**

Area II Member - Melissa Hanson, MSN, RN, board staff, North Dakota Board of Nursing

Area III Member - Sara Griffith, MSN, RN, board staff, North Carolina Board of Nursing

Area IV Member - Jennifer Laurent, PhD, FNP-BC, board member, Vermont State Board of Nursing

**Save the date for next year's Annual Meeting, which will be held in Chicago Aug. 21-23, 2019.**



# News & Notes: Annual Meeting Edition

## 2018 NCSBN AWARD RECIPIENTS



Annual Meeting photos by Tricia Koning Photography

**Congratulations to Our Annual Award Recipients**  
NCSBN recognized its dedicated and exceptional membership and guests at its annual awards ceremony. Specific award recipients included:

- 1. Gloria Damgaard, MS, RN, FRE**, executive director, South Dakota Board of Nursing, was honored with the prestigious R. Louise McManus Award. Individuals receiving this award have made sustained and significant contributions through the highest commitment and dedication to the mission and vision of NCSBN.
- 2. Gregory Y. Harris, JD**, former board member, Arizona State Board of Nursing, and **3. South Dakota State Sen. Deb Soholt, MS, RN**, former board member, South Dakota Board of Nursing, both received the Distinguished Achievement Award. The Distinguished Achievement Award is given to individuals whose contributions or accomplishments have impacted NCSBN's mission and vision.
- 4. Lois Hoell, MS, MBA, RN**, commission member, Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, and **5. Suelynn Masek, MSN, RN, CNOR**, commission member, Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission, both received the Exceptional Contribution Award, which is given for significant contribution by a member who is not a president or executive officer and demonstrated support of NCSBN's mission.
- 6. The College of Nurses of Ontario** was awarded the Regulatory Achievement Award that recognizes the member board or associate member that has made an identifiable, significant contribution to the mission and vision of NCSBN in promoting public policy related to the safe and effective practice of nursing in the interest of public welfare.





### Founders Award

Former Minnesota Board of Nursing Executive Director **Joyce M. Schowalter, MEd, RN**, was presented with the NCSBN Founders Award during a special Founders Luncheon on Aug. 15. Schowalter served as the executive officer of the Minnesota Board of Nursing from 1973 until 1999. Following the establishment of NCSBN, she was elected to the organization's first Board of Directors and later served as vice-president and president.



### Executive Officer Recognition Awards



Service awards were given to the following executive officers of BONs, presented by BOD President Katherine Thomas:



### Institute of Regulatory Excellence (IRE) Fellows

The 2018 class of Fellows includes (left to right):

- Melissa W. McDonald, MS-HRD, chief human resources officer, North Carolina Board of Nursing;
- Cathy Dinauer, MSN, RN, executive director, Nevada State Board of Nursing;
- Ruby R. Jason, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, executive director, Oregon State Board of Nursing; and
- Shelley MacGregor, MBA, RN, RN consultant, Registration Services, College and Association of Registered Nurses of Alberta.

#### Five Years

- Karen C. Lyon, PhD, RN, ACNS, NEA, executive director, Louisiana State Board of Nursing (photo a)
- Lynn Power, MN, RN, executive director, Association of Registered Nurses of Newfoundland and Labrador (photo b)
- Kathleen Weinberg, MSN, RN, executive director, Iowa Board of Nursing (photo c)
- Jennifer Breton, LPN, RN, executive director, College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba (not pictured)
- Lynsay Nair, LPN, executive director, Saskatchewan Association of Licensed Practical Nurses (not pictured)

#### 10 Years

- Julia L. George, MSN, RN, FRE, executive director, North Carolina Board of Nursing (photo d)

#### 20 Years

- Paula Meyer, MSN, RN, FRE, executive director, Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (photo e)

*“While we may be individually strong, we are collectively powerful.”*

—Rakhi Voria, Worldwide Inside Sales Business, Manager with Microsoft



# A United Mission

## Reflections on Hosting an International Guest and Colleague at NCSBN's Annual Meeting

By Lori Scheidt, MBA-HCM

*Scheidt is the executive director of the Missouri State Board of Nursing and a director-at-large on NCSBN's Board of Directors.*



I recently had the pleasure of serving as the liaison to David Murphy, principal of the School of Nursing, St. Ann's Hospital, and president of the Nursing Council of Trinidad and Tobago (NCTT). Murphy was one of eight invited special international guests at NCSBN's Annual Meeting Aug. 15-17, 2018, in Minneapolis.

A graduate of the School of Nursing, Andrews University and the University of the West Indies (UWI), Murphy is an ordained Seventh-day Adventist pastor/minister and state marriage officer. A registered nurse for the past 27 years, he is also a nursing educator/lecturer at the UWI Schools of Nursing and Midwifery and occasionally teaches and lectures there and at the University of the Southern Caribbean. Murphy is presently a doctoral candidate reading for a PhD in Public Health at Walden University. His areas of strength include preaching, public evangelism, counseling, teaching and health promotion.



**Top:** David Murphy, Jacqueline Warner-Murphy and Lori Scheidt; **Middle:** David Murphy and Sizeni Mchunu, registrar and CEO, South African Nursing Council;

**Bottom (left to right):** Sizeni Mchunu, registrar and CEO, South African Nursing Council; Hannah Kau-Kigo, registrar, Nursing and Midwifery Council of Botswana; Dr. Majid Al-Maqbali, director general of Nursing Affairs, Oman Ministry of Health; Ainur Aiyphanova, general director, Republican Center for Health Development of Kazakhstan; NCSBN CEO David Benton; Dr. Carmen López, president, Puerto Rico Board of Nursing; Dr. Leila McWhinney-Dehane, council chair, Nursing Council of Jamaica; Dr. Tassana Boontong, president, Thailand Nursing and Midwifery Council; and David Murphy.



NCTT is the regulating body for the two professions of nursing and midwifery. Both the Missouri State Board of Nursing (MOSBON) and NCTT share the primary purpose of protection of the public, particularly those who are vulnerable when ill and unable to meet their needs. NCTT carries out this function by way of the maintenance of a register of all nurses, midwives and a roll of nursing assistants eligible to practice within Trinidad and Tobago. This is also similar to MSBON's structure, in which we maintain the database of nurses.

Murphy shared that regulation of the nursing and midwifery professions means that standards and rules are in place under specific legislation that governs the professions. The standards are established to govern education, training, performance and the ethical conduct of the nurse and midwife. Standards enunciate the principles of minimal good practice required by the nurse and form the basis by which performance can be evaluated.

The standards describe what the public should expect from the nurse/midwife, and are used as a guide in disciplinary investigations.

Nurses and midwives hold a position of trust and responsibility and are professionally accountable for their actions, whether directly or vicariously (through delegation) to the NCTT and the law in accordance with the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act 33 of 1960 Chap. 29:53 and Act No. 8, 2014. They are also accountable contractually to their employers through respective policy guidelines. The NCTT may also make rules/regulations which require registrants to undertake continuing professional development and may establish standards of education and training in respect of specific additional qualifications which may be recorded on the Register.

The MOSBON's regulatory scheme is similar to that of NCTT. We both exist to protect the public, operate from legislative authority, maintain a list of licensed nurses, establish education standards and investigative complaints.

The health care professional shortage is a global issue. Collaborating and learning from health care regulators across the globe makes perfect sense in this context. Our conversations with Mr. Murphy demonstrated that whether you are regulating nursing in Missouri or Trinidad and Tobago, we have the same challenges. The two most prevalent being: timely issuance of licenses without compromising fraud detection, and flexible regulations that allow for innovation and scope of practice evolution without compromising public protection.

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Fall 2016

**LEADER TO LEADER**

AN INTERVIEW WITH **Marlene Carbullido**, Executive Director, Guam Board of Nurse Examiners

**IN THIS ISSUE ...**

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- ▶ Trends in the Regulatory Oversight of Nursing Education Programs
- ▶ Release of NCSBN's Online Transition to Practice Program ... and more

**Q & A**

**Q: Are LPN/VNs allowed to delegate?**

**A:** Licensed practical/vocational nurses (LPN/VNs) are allowed to delegate in some states/jurisdictions depending on their state nurse practice act (NPA) and rules/regulations. Registered nurses (RNs) are allowed to delegate in all states/jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of the LPN/VN to know what is permitted in their state NPA and rules/regulations, and it is crucial for the LPN/VN to have a good understanding of the delegation process in order to safely and effectively delegate. Additionally, RNs have a responsibility to know the laws regulating LPN/VNs since they may work closely with them.

**What inspired you to join the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners?**

I've always had an interest in regulatory nursing, and I admired the previous executive officers for the work they've done. When the opportunity presented itself under a new government administration, I was pleased to be appointed to the position by the director.

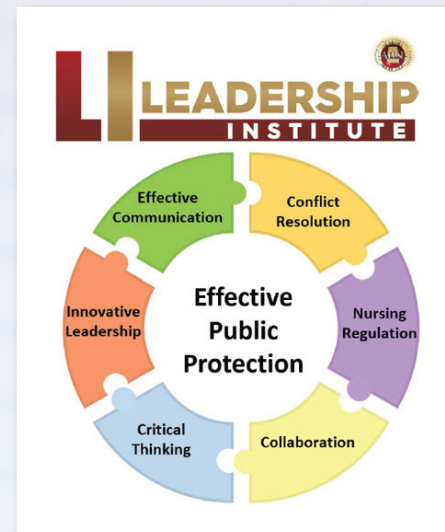
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# News & Notes

## Alabama Board of Nursing Launches Nursing Leadership Institute

Beginning in 2015 and coinciding with their centennial anniversary, the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) embarked on a new direction that includes improved communication with licensees, dynamic changes to the ABN website and improved continuing education opportunities. Within the mandate of protecting the public, the ABN considered it essential to cultivate strong nursing leaders. With that in mind, the ABN has launched the Alabama Nursing Leadership Institute, in order to continuously provide for and improve competency and education for licensees, nurse leaders and the public. This will be achieved through an educational framework and foundational curriculum plan that provides for training in regulatory standards, nursing leadership, public protection and nursing practice at all levels of nursing.



## Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association Council Experiences a Traditional Blanket Ceremony



Horbach

During their annual strategic planning meetings at the end of August, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA) Council, along with SRNA staff, were honoured to have the opportunity to participate in a traditional Blanket Ceremony. The afternoon-long ceremony was facilitated by All Nation's Hope Network, a Regina-based organization that supports First Nations, Metis and Inuit families and communities. Ceremony participants stood on blankets representative of the lands inhabited by indigenous people that eventually became Canada. They were then led through a historical journey that included the treaty-making process, residential schools and other significant events that have impacted Canada's First Nations people. At the conclusion, a powerful and emotion-filled sharing circle allowed participants to debrief and to reflect on the realities that were presented.

SRNA Council is committed to embracing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and has made truth and reconciliation a standing agenda item at their meetings. This was the first Council meeting for the SRNA's new Interim Executive Director, Jayne Naylen Horbach, RN, MHS, who moved into the role on Aug. 27, 2018.



## Guam Nurse Leaders and Senators Meet and Greet David Benton

On June 14, NCSBN CEO David Benton, PhD, RGN FFNF, FRCN, FAAN, visited Guam and met with nursing leaders from the Guam Board of Nurse Examiners, Guam Memorial Hospital, Guam Community College, Guam Regional Medical City, the University of Guam, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam Naval Hospital, Guam Surgical Center, the Guam School Nurses, and the Guam Nurses Association.

Benton and NCSBN Board of Directors Area I Director Cynthia Labonde, MN, RN, executive director, Wyoming State Board of Nursing, also met with Sens. Mary Torres and Frank Aguon from the Guam Legislature and the chief of staff for Sen. Dennis Rodriquez.

Benton was a featured guest on Guam's KUAM Care Force live news, where he spoke about the benefits of Guam joining the Nurse Licensure Compact, and was interviewed by The Guam Daily Post.

Benton visited the War In The Pacific National Historic Park, and also had the pleasure of dining at Guam's famous Meskla Chamoru Fusion Bistro, where he enjoyed local delicacies.



Clockwise from the top: Benton at Meskla restaurant; speaking at Dusit Thani; with Sen. Mary Torres and Guam Board of Nurse Examiners Executive Director Marlene Carbullido; with Sen. Frank Aguon; and with Cynthia LaBonde and Guam Board of Nurse Examiners staff.



**Have news to share?  
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