

## NP Council Key Messages for NP Members: February 2019

1. The British Columbia Nurse Practitioner Association amalgamated with the Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of British Columbia in September 2018. The Nurse Practitioner Council represents and advocates for NPs across the province as part of NNPBC.
2. Membership in NNPBC is free for the 2019 year. Sign up here: <https://www.nnpbc.com/membership/index.php> to learn about the programs and services offered. The fee collection agreement between the BC College of Nursing Professionals (BCCNP) and the Association of Registered Nurses (ARNBC) ends on December 31, 2019. Starting in 2020, NNPBC membership will be voluntary and will include a bundle of services that we anticipate will include membership with the Canadian Nurses Association, the Nurse Practitioner Association of Canada (NPAC) and liability protection through the Canadian Nurses Protective Society (CNPS). Stay tuned for details over the next year.
3. Primary Care Networks/Independent NP contracts: the NNPBC and NP Council are working closely with the Ministry of Health and Health Match BC to ensure this roll out is a success. NPs interested in pursuing these opportunities will need to seek independent legal and contractual advice before proceeding. They should also sign up with Health Match and connect with their regional Division of Family Practice.
4. Health Authority role in Independent Contracts: The Health Authority is providing the administrative support for the contracts. NPs in these contracts will not be employees of, or receive clinical oversight by, the Health Authority.
5. NNPBC has met with Health Employers Association of BC regarding NP compensation for Health Authority funded positions. We will be keeping you updated on these negotiations as they unfold. We are also actively involved in the support and review of the new Ministry of Health NP contracts.
6. Informational Webinars: three upcoming related to the PCN implementation.
  - a. February 6<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-6:30pm: Information about NP Independent practice versus NP as an agency employee provided by Canadian Nurses Protective Society (CNPS)
  - b. February 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:00pm: Ministry of Health, Primary Care NP Contract Opportunity - Q&A with Mark Armitage, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Human Resources and Labour Relations Division
  - c. February 27, 5:30-6:30pm: Insights into the new MOH primary care contracts soon to be available to BC NPs provided by Pulver, Crawford & Munroe, Labour & Employment Lawyers

[Sign up for webinars ahead of time by clicking here.](#)

7. Upcoming NP Council Elections: The NP Council will have eight open Council seats up for nomination this spring. These include:
  - Vice President,
  - Indigenous Councillor
  - Regional Councillors (Vancouver, Fraser, Northern, Interior)
  - Rural and Remote Councillor
  - Student Councillor

Job descriptions for these council seats will be on the NP portal of the NNPBC website by mid-Feb. Being on Council is incredibly informative and the focus is on governance and advocacy for NPs across the province. NNPBC employs a full professional staff to support the Board and help the Council to ensure operational strategies of the association are managed and completed – meaning it is less operational work than when the BCNPA was the voice of NPs.

8. The 14<sup>th</sup> annual NP Conference is taking place in Prince George, BC from May 30<sup>th</sup> -June 1<sup>st</sup>
  - a. Keynote speaker this year will be Monique Gray Smith who will speak to fostering paradigm shifts that emphasize the strength and resiliency of the First Nations Peoples in Canada.
  - b. The full conference program will be published by the end of February, but in the meantime you can view the pre-conference workshops to be held on May 30, 2019. [Click here for conference information and registration.](#)