



**PERSONAL MESSAGE AND GREETINGS FROM
HONOURABLE JENNIFER WHITESIDE
MINISTER OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS**

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners Week

On behalf of the Province of British Columbia, I want to thank the Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Registered Psychiatric Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of British Columbia for the invaluable contributions you make to our healthcare system in British Columbia, not only this week, but 365 days a year.

Nurses are the backbone of our healthcare system, providing compassionate and skilled care to patients in every setting, from hospitals to clinics, long-term care facilities to community health centers. Your tireless dedication to your patients and your profession is nothing short of remarkable, and we are so grateful for the work you do each and every day.

You have demonstrated incredible resilience, courage, and professionalism in the face of unprecedented challenges. From the COVID-19 pandemic, toxic drug crisis, to the impact of extreme weather, nurses in BC have been on the front lines of these issues, working hard to care for patients and support their families, at a toll on their own mental health. As we continue to work together to confront these challenges and build a brighter future, we want you to know that your contributions do not go unnoticed.

We recognize the importance of supporting your mental health and well-being, and we encourage you to seek help if you need it. Resources like the BC Crisis Line and the Virtual Mental Health Supports website are available to provide support and assistance.

In recognition of Nursing Week, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to every nurse in British Columbia. Your compassion, dedication, and expertise make a tremendous difference in the health and wellbeing of so many people. Thank you for your service.

...2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Whiteside". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Jennifer Whiteside
Minister of Health and Addictions