



## MEDIA RELEASE

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC

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### **NNPBC WELCOME CANADA'S CHIEF NURSING OFFICER, LEIGH CHAPMAN**

BURNABY, BC – The Association of Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC), the professional association in the province representing all four nursing designations, applauds the appointment of [Dr. Leigh Chapman](#) as Canada's federal Chief Nursing Officer (CNO). Dr. Chapman is a Registered Nurse who received her Masters in Clinical Health Sciences from McMaster University and her Ph.D from the University of Toronto's Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing. Her 20-year nursing career includes leadership in clinical care environments, including her recent tenure as Director of Clinical Services with Inner City Health Associates in Toronto.

Working with our colleagues from across the country, [NNPBC has advocated](#) for the reinstatement of the federal Chief Nursing Officer role. As Michael Sandler, NNPBC CEO noted, "The World Health Organization has named leadership as one of four strategic directions and policy priorities for 2021 to 2025. Areas of particular focus include increasing the number of nurses in senior health positions, strengthening nursing input into policy, and investing in leadership skills development for nurses. We congratulate Dr. Chapman on this appointment and look forward to working with her."

The current state of health care clearly demonstrates the pressing need to expand the role of nurses in health care system leadership with a focus on the ways in which nursing as a profession and a discipline can lead health care system transformation in a time of increasing demand and complexity. A state level CNO position serves as a focal point for health systems leadership, drawing together provincial and territorial leaders to ensure coordinated, effective change today, when we need it most.

NNPBC celebrates the appointment of Dr. Chapman into this critical role and applauds federal leaders for reinstating a CNO role at the national level. As the professional voice of nursing in British Columbia, we look forward to working with Dr. Chapman to ensure Canadian nurses have what they need to provide care to Canadians and to advance the collective goal of excellent health and care for all.

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