

GOVERNANCE - FINANCE - DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



BOARD MEETING
MARCH 26, 2026



College of Nursing
of New Brunswick

Boardroom Notes

The Board of Directors met on March 26, 2026, at the College of Nursing of New Brunswick office in Fredericton, opening the meeting with a land acknowledgement.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2026, at the College's Office, Fredericton. The College Board of Directors welcomes observers and encourages registrants and the public to experience the governance of the nursing regulatory body. Please contact the Executive Office at bureau-exec-office@cnnb-opinb.ca to request to attend meetings at least one week in advance of the meeting date.

Project Updates & Information

Nursing Act Update

Legislative amendments were sent to the Department of Health on March 11, 2026. A response has not been received to date regarding ministerial approval. Once received, we will proceed with the next steps in the legislative process.

Clinical Nurse Specialist Definition

The Board approved a motion to add the proposed definition of the Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) to the CNNB website glossary. The approved definition states "Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNSs) are advanced practice nurses prepared at the Master's or Doctoral level who possess advanced nursing knowledge, skills and judgment, as well as clinical experience within a focused area of care. CNSs do not have an expanded legislated scope of practice or a separate professional designation; they are regulated as Registered Nurses."

It was noted that an RN, who took a Canadian Nurses Association certification in a specialty area of practice cannot refer to themselves as a CNS if they do not hold a Master's or Doctoral level education.

Boardroom Notes- March 26, 2026

Official Languages Commissioner (OLC)

CNNB received a report from the Official Languages Commissioner on March 5th, concluding the investigation into complaints filed against CNNB (then NANB) in 2016 and 2019 and issued 10 recommendations. The Board approved the proposed reply to the OLC and that the CEO and staff take steps to address the 10 recommendations within the report.

Entry-to-practice Exams

Quarterly Entry-to-Practice Exam (NCLEX-RN and CNPE) results were shared. In keeping with Rule 1.16 Confidentiality of Exam Results, overall examination statistics may be released provided the identity of the school is withheld.

NURSYS Canada

CNNB announced on March 23, 2026, that it has joined NURSYS Canada, a database that enables participating Canadian regulatory bodies to access real-time regulatory information of applicants and nurses who are or have been registered and licensed as a nurse elsewhere in Canada as well as the US. The College, like other regulatory bodies, relies on information from other jurisdictions when making registration and licensing decisions of applicants.

Governance

Board of Directors 2026 Election

Slate of Candidates

The Board approved the slate of candidates to be acclaimed in the 2026 election. Candidates include: Region 1 Adèle LeBlanc, RN; Region 3 Robyn Hamilton, NP; and Region 4 Melissa Duguay, RN. They will begin their term as Board Directors June 1st, 2026.

A special thanks was extended to Julie Boudreau, Region 1 Director, for serving as Chair of the Finance Committee and concluding two terms with the Board of Directors.

Succession Plan

The Board approved the Succession Plan for the CEO and Registrar. The plan applies to temporary, interim, or permanent replacements for CEO and Registrar absences and supports continued and effective leadership and operations of the College.

Standing Committees

Nursing Education Advisory Committee (NEAC)

The Board approved the annual review reports for following nursing education programs: UdeM Baccalauréat en science infirmière (B. Sc. Inf.). Passerelle and NP; University of New Brunswick (UNB) Bachelor of Nursing (BN), Advanced Standing Program, Licensed Practical Nurse to BN Bridging, and NP; and the New Brunswick Community College Canadian Re-entry, Internationally Educated Bridging program, all be considered satisfactory, and that their approval status remain unchanged. The next annual review will be in January 2027.

The Board approved the UdeM B. Sc. Inf. 3rd year of the modified program receive the status of approved and that UdeM proceeds with the annual monitoring review, as outlined in the Standards for Standards for Nursing Education and Program Review.

Finance

The CEO presented an update from the September 2025 Board meeting on surplus spending to date. The 1st Quarter Interim Financials were still being calculated but will be available for the next board meeting. The 2024-2025 audit was approved.

A fee review was shared with the Board. CNNB regulatory fees have not increased in over 10 years. With an increase in registrants, workload, and staffing requirements, a regulatory fee review was completed to mitigate increasing registration fees. The Board approved proposed regulatory fees and amendments to Rule 7.02 membership fees after May 31st, reducing the partial year fee from three to two timeframes.

Departmental Highlights

Registration

The Registration Department presented a summary of 2025 registration data and 2026 renewal outcomes including registrant trends, new registrants, and renewal rates. The overall renewal rate of RNs and NPs was 92%.

An IEN pathway review is concluding. An evaluation and external partner engagement was completed including a full day consultation with invited external partners. The goal of the review is to increase volume of applicants and registrants and decrease applicants that choose other jurisdictions, decrease time and cost, while maintaining public protection. A rule change will be presented to board in the coming weeks to reflect proposed changes.

The Continuing Competence Program (CCP) is required by all registrants as indicated in the bylaws, along with an audit process. A total of 517 registrants were selected for the 2026 CCP audit. The audit revealed a number of opportunities for CNNB to support engagement and completion of CCP. Targeted activities for 2026 were identified.

Policy, Risk and Compliance

The Policy, Risk and Compliance Department presented a Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Framework that the Board approved the KPIs for internal monitoring and reporting and review in one year.

Practice & Education

The Practice & Education Department presented the Code of Conduct for Registered Nurses and Nurse Practitioners along with a comprehensive communication plan that includes presentations, social media videos, direct emails to registrants, shared in the Virtual Flame, as well as FAQs.

The Board approved the Code of Conduct as presented effective June 1, 2026.

The Government of New Brunswick made legislative amendments to the *Regional Health Authorities Act*, the *Hospital Act* and the *Hospital Services Act*. The amendments relate to adding NPs to the list of professionals who can admit patients to hospital, perform admission activities in hospitals and discharge patients from hospital. CNNB supported this work in collaboration with Horizon Health Network and provided feedback during the public consultation period. This is a positive change for NPs and CNNB is in the process of adapting our information to align with the change.

Complaints

The Complaints Department provided a briefing on the status of complaints between December 1, 2024, and November 30, 2025. Successes include adding 6 additional Complaints Committee members to address the increasing volume and complexity of complaints and holding the College's first public hearing. Continued issues include delays in reporting practice concerns to CNNB and challenges obtaining documents pertinent to complaints. Privacy breaches are noted to be an on-going occurrence.



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