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Revised Pathways Accelerating Licensure and Strengthening Workforce Integration of Internationally Educated Nurses

Fredericton, NB, August 5, 2026: — The College of Nursing of New Brunswick (CNNB), in collaboration with the Provincial Government, have revised its pathways for Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) to increase efficiencies while maintaining the high standards of public protection expected by New Brunswickers.

The revised pathways allow for timelier registration for qualified IENs, helping address healthcare workforce needs while working to ensure those being registered are safe and competent to practice nursing.

The changes reflect a shared commitment to improving the registration process and IEN transition to practice in New Brunswick by:

- Decreasing the time for registration of IENs into the New Brunswick healthcare workforce;
- Reducing applicant attrition from the pathways;
- Decreasing the financial burden for both employers and applicants; while
- Maintaining rigorous public safety and competency standards.

“These revisions represent collaborative work between CNNB, Government of New Brunswick, educators, and employers. As a result, we have improved pathway to registration that continue to support the IEN transition to safe and competent practice.” said Kate Sheppard, CEO and Registrar of CNNB. “By increasing efficiencies while maintaining our commitment to public protection, we are supporting qualified nurses in bringing their skills to New Brunswick more quickly.”

The updated pathways were developed through close collaboration between CNNB and the Department of Health, informed by evidence, regulatory best practices, and ongoing commitment to modernize IEN registration processes.

“Internationally educated nurses play a vital role in strengthening New Brunswick’s healthcare system and improving access to care for communities across the province” said Health Minister John Dornan. “Our government is committed to supporting a streamlined



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approach to enter New Brunswick's health care system in support of nurses coming to the province.”

Detailed information about the revised IEN pathways and registration requirements can be found on CNNB's website.

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