ARNNL DOCUMENTS APPROVED
Council has approved two documents to support RN practice:

- **Shared Competencies and Assignment of Care: Registered Nurses Collaborating with Licensed Practical Nurses**
- **RN Roles in Long Term Care**

COUNCIL REITERATES SUPPORT FOR NURSING EDUCATION CONSOLIDATION
At ARNNL’s 59th Annual Business Meeting in June, members communicated to ARNNL that it make consolidation a ‘priority action.’ In the months that followed, ARNNL led the development of a fact sheet on *Nursing Education Consolidation (2013)* and brought the message to meetings with the Honourable Susan Sullivan, Minister of Health and Community Services, university officials, and are looking forward to a meeting with the Honourable Kevin O’Brien, Minister of Advanced Education and Skills.

COUNCIL ENDORSES POSITION STATEMENT ON BREASTFEEDING AND WHO/UNICEF BABY-FRIENDLY INITIATIVE
Council endorsed the Newfoundland and Labrador Public Health Association’s recently-released Position Statement on Breastfeeding and WHO/UNICEF Baby-Friendly Initiative (BFI). BFI is a key strategy for the protection, promotion and support of breastfeeding in Canada. Click [here](#) for more.

POLICY DECISIONS
To aid in the implementation of the *Registered Nurses Regulations* (approved in June 2013), Council deliberated and made policy decisions in four areas:

- Revisions to the Test of English Language Policy – for applicants who are required to demonstrate English language proficiency for registration. ARNNL’s list of accepted English language tests now aligns with national standards;
- Duration and expiry dates for Interim licenses – for applicants seeking RN/NP licensure to accommodate the applicant’s ability/availability to write the required examination in the allowed time period;
- Document submission process – for future Internationally-Educated Nurse (IEN) applicants to submit all source documents directly to the National Nursing Assessment Service, the soon-to-be established application centre for all IEN applicants in Canada;
- Continuing Competency Program requirements – to accept completion of a continuing competency program in another province/territory/country for former members seeking re-licensure.

Further, Council approved a new policy, *Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)* (pursuant to section 16 of the *RN Regulations*). This policy will be used in the professional conduct review (PCR) process where the Complaints Authorization Committee directs an ADR to resolve an allegation filed against a RN.
ARNNL’s Awards for Excellence in Nursing program recognizes RNs and NPs who set a standard for nursing excellence. The deadline is February 28, 2014. Click here to start the nomination process! Awards are presented for Nursing Practice, Education, Administration, Research, as well as the Elizabeth Summers Novice Nurse Award. In conjunction with the Awards, Honorary Membership is bestowed upon individuals who have helped advance the nursing profession and improve the quality of care.

A new bylaw, Standards of Practice, Professional Ethics and Definitions of Conduct Deserving of Sanction (made pursuant to sections 10(1)(j) and (k) of the RN Act), defines what constitutes conduct deserving of sanction for the purposes of the PCR process when an allegation/complaint is filed against a registered nurse (as set out in section 18-35 of the Act).

With the implementation of the RN Regulations (2013), there are a number of mandatory requirements for licensure renewal, including the requirement to submit a letter of good standing (also known as a “Verification of Registration”) from each jurisdiction where a member was registered or licensed in the 12 months prior. Members are reminded that such a request can take time to process and to do so well in advance of March 31, 2014. ARNNL cannot renew a license if this documentation has not been submitted.

Please be advised that ARNNL House will be closed from noon on Dec. 24 to Jan. 1 (inclusive). On regular business days during this period, telephone messages left on the main line – (709) 753-6040/800-563-3200 – will be checked daily by on-call staff members and returned based on urgency.

ARNNL is the regulatory body and professional organization representing all RNs and NPs in the province. In pursuit of its mission, “Nursing Excellence for the Health of the Population,” ARNNL exists so there will be Accountability for Self-Regulation, Professionalism, Quality Professional Practice Environments, and Healthy Public Policy.

ARNNL is seeking your help to identify members of the public to serve the Association on Council and working committees to assist us in meeting our regulatory requirements in such areas as: registration, professional conduct, nursing practice, and public policy. Public Representatives provide ARNNL Council, its committees, and members with an understanding of consumer issues as they relate to nursing and health care in our province. Click here for details.

Cathy Stratton, ARNNL’s President, and Lynn Power, Executive Director, will be visiting registered nurses and members of the public in the Northern Peninsula in April 2014. Look for details in the coming months!

ARNNL’s 60th Annual Business Meeting will take place on the morning of Thursday, June 5, 2014 at Hotel Gander. Join us in person or by audio conference. In the new year, check here often for details.

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Do you have ideas to help us commemorate this significant milestone? Email jbarry@arnnl.ca with your feedback.