

JOINT MEMO

To: All NBA members; all managers

From: Strategic Nurse Staffing Committee (SNSC)

Date: January 28, 2021

Subject: Committee Update

The Strategic Nursing Staffing Committee (SNSC) is comprised of representatives from Northern Health (NH) and the BC Nurses' Union (BCNU). It meets regularly to consult on Northern Health nurse workforce planning including trends, activities and initiatives.

The committee met on November 6, 2020 to discuss long and short-term staffing strategies in the Northern Health Authority. Two main areas of focus were University Hospital of Northern British Columbia (UHNBC) and long-term care. Here are some of the key discussion points from the meeting:

1. NH and BCNU will collaborate on an initiative to conduct detailed analysis of staffing issues in select departments at UHNBC including HAU, ICU and ED. SNSC will further consider the format of this initiative and, from the analysis, will recommend improvements.
2. NH and BCNU are working to enhance the Travel Nurse Program across Northern Health.

You may expect regular SNSC updates through the year as we continue working together to identify how to best support nurses in the North. The focus will be on recruitment and retention strategies, regularization of casual nursing hours, nurse education and training, seasonal strategies and health service delivery initiatives.

SNSC expects to schedule its next meeting in early 2021.

Committee members are:

- Jennifer Mark, Co Chair, BCNU, Servicing Coordinator, IHA and NH
- Danette Thomsen, BCNU, Regional Executive Member, North East and Northern Interior
- Tim Werry, BCNU, LRO, North East and Northern Interior
- Teri Forster, BCNU, Regional Executive Member, North West Region
- Lesley Ash, Co-Chair, NH, Regional Director, Human Resources
- Angela DeSmit, NH, COO, Peace Region
- Emily Plummer, NH, Acting Regional Director, Human Resources
- Donna Porter, NH, Professional Practice Lead
- Tanya Carter, NH, Administrative Assistant, Human Resources

If you have any questions, please contact your Human Resource Advisor or BCNU steward.