



### **2009 WINNERS OF THE EMPLOYER RECOGNITION AWARDS**

On May 17, the Canadian Nurses Association awarded CHSLD juif de Montréal/Jewish Eldercare Centre with the 2009 Employer Recognition Award for their support of registered nurses in pursuing continuous education opportunities through the CNA Certification Program.

CHSLD juif de Montréal/Jewish Eldercare Centre is the second largest public Jewish long-term care centre in the Province of Quebec. For nearly 100 years, the Centre and its founding organizations have been caring for the chronically ill and elderly of the Jewish community in a homelike environment and according to Jewish tradition and values. The Centre received \$1,000 from the Canadian Nurses Foundation to help support ongoing activities related to CNA certification and certification renewal. The Centre's outstanding commitment to certification and to its registered nurses sets it apart. Its certification awareness campaign, which started in August, encourages nurses to pursue CNA certification through funding the costs of certification exams and providing full pay for exam day, offering a two-day workshop for exam preparation and purchasing study materials. The Centre also compensates CNA-certified nurses for mentoring new applicants for certification.

Honourable mention recognizing employers who have provided outstanding support to their CNA-certified nurses was awarded to Alberta Health Services, Calgary, Alberta. Three innovation awards were presented to North Perth Family Health Team, Listowel, Ontario; Northumberland Hills Hospital, Cobourg, Ontario; and Prince Albert Parkland Health Region, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

For more information on the 2009 nominees, and on the 2010 award nomination process and application, please visit the CNA Certification website at <http://getcertified.cna-aiic.ca>

### **CERTIFIED NURSE ON THE PODIUM**

Last May, Diane St-Cyr, CNA certified nurse in Enterostomal Therapy nursing, received the 2009 "Prix Florence" for excellence in health-care from the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec (Quebec College of Nurses). This prize highlights the exceptional contributions of a nurse to quality of care in his or her practice. Diane was active in the development of the certification credential for enterostomal therapy nursing, whose first exam was offered this past April. Congratulations Diane!

Please let us know if you know a certified nurse who has received a special honour.

### **CNA CERTIFICATION DESIGNATION CREDENTIAL**

The CNA Certification Program grants a designation to every nurse who successfully earns or renews the CNA certification credential. There is a specific designation, in English and French, for each of the 19 specialties/areas of nursing practice. It is a trademarked credential that has gone through a legal and formal review prior to being released for use. All of the designation credentials finish with (C), identifying the credential as Canadian. Some examples of designations and descriptors are: CRN(C) – Certified in Rehabilitation Nursing (C)anada; GNC(C) – Gerontological Nurse Certified (C)anada; and CNCC(C) – Certified Nurse in Critical Care (C)anada.

Only CNA-certified nurses holding a current and valid CNA certification credential can use a designation after their name. The complete list of all of the designation credentials and their descriptors can be found on the CNA website at: [http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/specialties/default\\_e.aspx](http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/specialties/default_e.aspx)

## CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

CNA's Lucie Vachon, Nurse Consultant, Certification, and Leslie Anne Patry, Manager, Certification, have been busy criss-crossing the country to participate in several national nursing specialty conferences. "It has been such a pleasure to meet and to speak with CNA-certified nurses from every corner of the country and to witness the amazing stories of excellence in nursing. We value the relationship that has been developed and nurtured between the national nursing specialty associations and the CNA Certification Program over the years," says Leslie. Lucie and Leslie are always open to new and innovative ideas for promoting the CNA Certification Program to nurses across Canada. Please contact us should you wish to discuss CNA participating at your nursing specialty event.

## CNA CERTIFICATION PROGRAM VIDEO

The Certification Program invites you to obtain a free copy of our promotional DVD. In this 10-minute video, certified nurses describe their commitment to their career, their role in the health-care system, and their desire to challenge their skills and knowledge through CNA certification. To request a copy of the video or to obtain additional information, please contact Celina Curtis at [ccurtis@cna-aiic.ca](mailto:ccurtis@cna-aiic.ca) or 1-800-361-8404 ext. 309.

## 2010 CERTIFICATION RENEWAL

For nurses due to renew in 2010, applications for certification renewal will be accepted until November 20, 2009. If you do not plan to renew your credential (e.g., retiring), please let us know by contacting Celina Curtis at [ccurtis@cna-aiic.ca](mailto:ccurtis@cna-aiic.ca) or 1-800-361-8404 ext. 309. If you are unable to meet the required renewal eligibility criteria (e.g., hours of experience, CL hours), then you may want to consider applying for inactive status. Details can be found on the CNA website at [http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/recertify/status/default\\_e.aspx](http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/recertify/status/default_e.aspx)

Remember, once your CNA certification credential has lapsed you are no longer entitled to use the nursing designation initial after your name. Don't let this happen. Renew your CNA certification credential!

If you have any questions about your renewal, don't hesitate to contact us at [certification@cna-aiic.ca](mailto:certification@cna-aiic.ca).

## YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

To help us maintain effective communication with you, please inform us promptly if your contact information changes. Go to the CNA Certification website at: [http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/modification/default\\_e.aspx](http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/modification/default_e.aspx) and complete the online form, or call the CNA Certification Program Processing Centre at 1-800-450-5206.

## Financial Assistance Available for 2010 Initial and Renewal Candidates

Each year, the Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) reimburses the fees of the certification exam, certification renewal exam or renewal by continuous learning for two nurses in each of the 19 specialties/ areas of nursing practice. For more information, we encourage you to consult the CNF website at <http://www.cnf-fiic.ca>

In addition, the CNA Certification website lists financial assistance resources for nurses applying for initial certification or renewal. Please visit the Financial Assistance section at: [http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/apply/financial/default\\_e.aspx](http://www.cna-aiic.ca/CNA/nursing/certification/apply/financial/default_e.aspx)

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For more information mail, fax or e-mail:

Canadian Nurses Association, Certification Program, 50 Driveway, Ottawa, ON K2P 1E2

Tel.: 613-237-2133 or 1-800-361-8404

Fax: 613-237-3520

E-mail: [certification@cna-aiic.ca](mailto:certification@cna-aiic.ca)

Website: <http://getcertified.cna-aiic.ca>

