

CANADIAN
NURSES
ASSOCIATION



ASSOCIATION DES
INFIRMIÈRES ET
INFIRMIERS DU CANADA

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Stephen Friedman
President, MTV
Stephen.Friedman@mtvstaff.com

Dear Mr. Friedman,

Both as president of the Canadian Nurses Association, which represents more than 150,000 registered nurses (RNs), and as an RN of 36 years, I am truly saddened to learn of your network's new program, *Scrubbing In*. First hearing of this show from a young nurse, I am especially concerned about its impact on the new generation of nurses.

RNs provide expert care to their patients, helping them and their families through life's most difficult days. RNs work with people to help them heal and live healthier lives. Between birth and death, the number of interactions RNs have with their patients are among the highest of all health-care providers. *Scrubbing In*'s dramatized account of nurses' lives trivializes the critical work they perform. All of their hard work, from studying and gaining experience to answering nursing's call, will be overshadowed by typical 'reality' show fodder.

Moreover, both the American and Canadian nursing professions are facing real challenges — such as tighter health-care budgets, ever-evolving legislation that governs our practice and increasing demand from growing populations who are living longer lives (often with more complex, chronic illnesses). As we work to fight these real battles that affect our capacity to deliver the best care to patients, it's a shame that we have to add sexual objectification and negative stereotypes to the list because of *Scrubbing In*.

If you respect the nursing profession and the care we provide to millions of people every day, you will cancel *Scrubbing In*.

Regards,

Barbara Mildon, RN, PhD, CHE, CCHN(C)
President

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