



CNA Webinar Series: Progress in Practice

**Learn more about advancing
public health nursing in schools**

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CNA June 2012 resolution

BE IT RESOLVED THAT CNA seeks to partner with governmental and non-governmental funders to undertake national public health nursing in schools research and policy analysis...to:

- 1) determine the extent to which public health nursing in schools and its various models of care delivery, is being implemented across Canada,
- 2) identify the outcomes and benefits associated with (models),
- 3) determine the strength of evidence supporting public health nursing in schools....,
- 4) identify the key barriers and facilitators....,
- 5) inform the development of evidence-based recommendations for nurses, organizations and system-level policy and decision-makers...



Researchers and advisory group

Researchers: Helena Wall and Alexandra Henteleff

Advisory group:

- Sara Clemens and Lynn Anne Mulrooney, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
- Carol MacDougall, Community Health Nurses' Initiatives Group; RNAO, Public Health Nurses in Schools Committee
- Cindy Versteeg and John Atkins, Political Action and Advocacy Standing Committee, Community Health Nurses of Canada
- Ruth Schofield, Community Health Nurses of Canada
- Fjola Hart Wasekeesikaw, Aboriginal Nurses Association of Canada
- Kate Thompson, Strategic Policy Branch, Health Canada



Public health nurses have the potential to significantly influence health and education outcomes of Canada's school-age population. They are well positioned to build effective structures and processes that support school communities to identify and respond to the needs of the populations they serve.



Foundations of public health practice

The practice of public health is population-based.

The public health nurse:

- Focuses on entire populations and sub-populations that have similar health concerns and characteristics
- Is guided by an assessment of population health status that is determined through a community assessment process
- Considers the broad determinants of health
- Considers all levels of prevention, with a focus on primary prevention
- Considers all levels of practice including a community focus, a systems focus, and an individual/family focus



Community Health Nurses' Initiatives Group	National Association of School Nurses (U.S.)	Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting health with individuals • Promoting health with small groups or classrooms • Promoting school-wide health • Promoting school-board-wide and community-level health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing direct health care to students and staff • Providing screening and referral for health conditions • Providing leadership for the provision of health services • Serving as a liaison between school personnel, family, community and health care • Promoting a healthy school environment • Promoting a healthy social and physical environment • Serving in a leadership role for health policies and programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health promotion • Health education • Infectious disease control • Individual prevention services • Acute health issues • Chronic health issues • Documentation • Professional accountability

Barriers to working to full scope of practice

- Lack of clear role definition and role confusion
- Erosion of relationships
- Lack of outcome measures
- Lack of resources
- Lack of commitment/support
- Lack of organizational support
- Need for further competency development



Enablers to working to full scope of practice

- Clear role description and expectations
- Collaborative relationships
- Adequate human resources
- Organizational support
- Public health nursing competencies



Recommendations – individual level

- Increase personal knowledge about comprehensive school health and the role of public health nurses in the school setting
- Establish a visible presence in the schools and develop positive relationships with school staff
- Educate school staff about the role of public health nurses in the school setting
- Advocate for a national comprehensive school health strategy



Recommendations – organizational level

- Invest in a healthy schools strategy
- Develop and/or maintain intersectoral relationships
- Identify schools as a priority setting
- Commit to new resources or redistribute existing resources
- Articulate the role of public health nurses in schools
- Empower nurses to work to their full scope of practice
- Fund research
- Revise job descriptions to reflect public health nursing competencies
- Advocate for nursing education with strong public health component taught by nurses with student placements



Recommendations – systems level

Governments and policy-makers at all levels need to shift their funding and/or policy emphases to new school public health nursing models. Models must include:

- schools as a priority setting for the delivery of public health nursing services
- adequate public health nursing resources in schools
- strengthened collaboration between ministries



Next steps

- Analyse international perspective
- Analyse results from this research to develop policy recommendations



The screenshot displays a webinar interface with two main windows: 'Participants' and 'Q&A'. The 'Participants' window shows a 'Speaking:' section with 'Panelists: 2' (Isabelle St-Pierre (Host) and Anne Laflamme) and 'Attendee: 1' (Diane Chicoine (me)). The 'Q&A' window is open, showing a drop-down menu with 'All Panelists' selected. A red arrow points to the 'All Panelists' option in the menu. Below the menu is an 'Ask:' field containing 'All Panelists' and a 'Send' button.

CNA Webinar Series

Learn more about advancing public health nursing in schools

Due to the large number of participants in this webinar, only questions in writing can be accepted, during or at the end of the presentations.

To submit a question:

1. Click the Q&A button.
2. Select “**All Panelists**” from the drop-down menu.
3. Type your question in the field.
4. Click “Send.”





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<http://www.cna-aiic.ca/en/on-the-issues/better-health/community-health-care>



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Upcoming webinar

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Care to Be the Best and be prepared
for the 2014 exams**

January 21, 2014



Thank you!