The 2015 CFMHN National Conference will celebrate advances, accomplishments and innovations in psychiatric, mental health and addictions nursing over the past 20 years across Canada. We will also explore the unique issues, challenges and opportunities of our nursing specialty in diverse and evolving Canadian mental health and addictions health care environments.

CFMHN is proud to recognize the many achievements of Canadian psychiatric, mental health and addictions nurses. CFMHN leaders have been instrumental in working with the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) to develop and promote ongoing national certification standards for psychiatric/mental health nurses. In fact, 2015 represents the 20th anniversary of CNA Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing Certification in Canada! Today we represent one of the largest groups of CNA-certified specialty nurses in the country. In addition the Registered Psychiatric Nurses Regulators of Canada (RPNRC) recently celebrated the validation and release of the National Entry-Level Competencies for Registered Psychiatric Nurses in Western Canada – another milestone of achievement in our area of nursing specialization.
**How to Apply Online**
Before you begin it may be helpful to have your abstract (up to 300 words) and brief biography in MS Word format that you can cut and paste into the appropriate sections of the online form. All abstracts must be submitted online – all information fields requested must be completed. Please visit [www.cfmhn.ca](http://www.cfmhn.ca).

**Themes/Clusters**
We welcome paper, poster and pre conference workshop abstracts that highlight innovations, advances and challenges. The themes below are intended to stimulate ideas and must relate to psychiatric, mental health and addictions nursing specialization.

1. Innovations in practice: Showcase best practices in technology and/or client-centred care for populations across settings and the lifespan (e.g., youth-centred care, care for the elderly, aboriginal populations, ethno-racial populations, other vulnerable populations, etc.)
2. Advancing roles: Demonstrate enhanced scope and innovative contributions within interprofessional settings (e.g., advanced practice, leadership, team-based models of care, peer support etc.)
3. New education and professional development initiatives: Promotion of competencies and standards in evolving health care environments across Canada (at all levels of practice education).
4. Health human resources: Demonstration of opportunities to build the workforce of tomorrow (e.g. entry level competencies, graduate nurses, late career nurses, recruitment/retention, diversity in the nursing workforce, etc.)
5. Politics and advocacy: Innovative, successes or challenges in Canada today (national credentialing, client rights and advocacy, family advocacy, ethics, etc.)
6. Evolving workplaces: Successes and challenges facing nursing today (e.g. healthy workplace strategies; hospital-community partnerships; inner city, remote, northern or rural settings etc.)

**Content**
Your abstract should describe the innovation, issue or project in the first paragraph. Briefly describe the relevance of this initiative to one of the six themes of the conference. Include a summary of the key findings, conclusions or solutions and how they may be of relevance to professional colleagues in other mental health and addictions settings. Authors are expected to clearly outline key learning objectives for their presentation.

**Selection Process**
All abstracts received by the deadline date will be subjected to a “blind” peer review. Selection criteria include relevance to the conference themes, innovation or new learning, and application to Canadian mental health and addictions settings. This year, greater emphasis will be placed on presentations that highlight the unique contributions, achievements and outcomes of diverse psychiatric, mental health and addictions nursing roles and initiatives in Canadian health care.

**Notifications**
All abstracts will be automatically acknowledged by email upon successful online submission. Selection will be completed and acknowledged by email by March 9th, 2015 at midnight.

**Process**
Successful authors must indicate their intent to present within two weeks of notification of acceptance to be included in the conference brochure and program.

**Types of Presentation Opportunities**
*Concurrent Sessions*: 30 minutes inclusive of a questions period.
*Posters*: Will be displayed throughout the conference with a dedicated reception for viewing and guided poster tour.
*Pre Conference Workshops*: Several half day interactive workshops.

**Other Information**
All presenters are responsible for all expenses incurred and must register for the full conference. There will be approximately 55 papers, 30 posters, and several pre conference workshops.