

NURSING EDUCATION COUNCIL OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

BYLAWS

ARTICLE I: The name of the organization is the Nursing Education Council of British Columbia (also known as NECBC).

ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

The purposes of the Council are to:

Be the provincial leaders for nursing education in B.C. by advocating for nursing education programs that are evidence-informed and support best practices in the preparation of safe, competent nursing graduates,

Establish strategic links with government and other key provincial and national stakeholders in order to strongly advocate for and influence policy and planning regarding nursing education and health human resources in BC.

Plan and sustain high quality nursing education programs that are responsive to the unique geographical areas in BC, responsive to the changing needs of society, and include nursing education delivery models that promote access for varied populations of students.

Provide a clear and sustainable direction for the preparation of a high quality nursing workforce by promoting national and provincial standards for excellence in nursing education.

Define and secure fiscal and faculty resources necessary for nursing education, research and knowledge translation.

Act as a provincial forum for monitoring and responding to trends and public policy initiatives that impact nursing education in BC.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1

Membership schools shall be public and private not-for-profit post-secondary institutions in BC conducting educational programs for:
Health Care Assistant (HCA)

Practical Nursing (PN)
Registered Psychiatric Nursing (RPN)
Bachelor of Psychiatric Nursing (BPN)
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
Post-graduate certificate programs (e.g. specialty courses)
Graduate Degrees in Nursing (MN) including Nurse
Practitioner (NP)
PhD (Nursing)

In the case of collaborative programs, each participating school shall be deemed a member.

SECTION 2

Each member school shall designate one representative to serve on the Council. The representative, or designate, shall be a nurse and the current nursing head of each membership school.

Member institutions will notify the Chair of any changes in representation. The mail-out list will be updated as required.

SECTION 3

Member attendance at meetings shall be financed by that member's institution.

SECTION 4

Member institutions shall pay an annual membership fee, the amount to be determined by the Officers of the Council before the beginning of the fiscal year. The membership year shall be April 1 to March 31. By a majority vote of Council members, additional fees may be assessed in order to support specific projects and further the work of the Council.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS

SECTION 1

The Officers of the Council shall be:

Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

SECTION 2

Duties of officers:

Chair:

- Presides at all meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee
- Represents and speaks on behalf of the Council
- Delegates duties as necessary to the Vice-Chair, other Officers, or to other members of the Council

Vice-Chair:

- Performs the duties of the Chair as necessary
- Performs other duties as assigned by the Chair
- In the event the Chair is unable to complete her/his term, the Vice Chair will assume the Chair's duties and complete the Chair's term

Secretary:

- Maintains a record of all proceedings of Council
- Ensures relevant correspondence is posted to the NECBC website.
- Posts all meeting and other relevant documents to NECBC website
- Sends out meeting notices to members
- Develops the agenda in consultation with the Chair
- Sends out agendas and meeting packages to members
- Maintains current membership and mailing list of Council and its committees/working groups

Treasurer:

- Sends out notices of fee renewal
- Maintains an account of all financial transactions of Council
- Deposits Council funds in NECBC's account in a registered financial institution
- Provides a financial statement to the Officers and a financial report to the Council annually at end of fiscal year.

SECTION 3

Terms of Officers

Chair: term will be two (2) years followed by the position of Past-Chair for a term of one (1) year.

Vice Chair: term will be two (2) years.

Secretary: term will be two (2) years.

Treasurer: term will be three (3) years.

Members at Large: Elected from the NECBC membership; term will be for two (2) years; may be elected for a consecutive term to a total of four (4) years.

Officers may choose to put their name forward for re-election as an Officer to a maximum total of 2 terms.

SECTION 4

Officers must be current members of NECBC.

ARTICLE V: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the Officers and two Members at Large.

SECTION 2

The Council may authorize the Executive Committee to act on its behalf, as deemed necessary.

SECTION 3

The Executive committee shall meet at the call of the Chair upon request of two of its members.

SECTION 4

Responsibilities of Members at Large:

- To participate in meetings of the Executive Committee
- Be included in Executive correspondence
- Perform other duties as assigned by the Chair and/or Executive Committee

ARTICLE VI: COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS

A Nominating Committee comprised of a minimum of three (3) Council members, shall be named by the Council at the Fall meeting. Terms of Reference will guide this committee.

The Council or the Officers shall have the power to create additional committees and/or working groups as deemed necessary to carry out the business of the Council.

ARTICLE VII: DELEGATES

Delegates to represent NECBC on external committees will be selected by the Executive Committee or by nomination and majority vote by Council members. The Chair will only vote in the case of a tie.

ARTICLE VIII: DECISION MAKING

Whenever possible, decision making will be by consensus. In the event Council is unable to reach consensus, then decisions will be made by majority vote of Council members present at the meeting. The Chair will only vote in the case of a tie.

In the case where Council decisions must be made between Council meetings, the Executive will arrange an alternate voting mechanism.

ARTICLE XI: MEETINGS

Meetings will be held a minimum of four (4) times/year. Additional meetings may be held at the call of the Chair.

Seven (7) members of the Council in person or participating via tele/video conference shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

ARTICLE X: BY-LAW AMENDMENT

These by-laws may be amended at a meeting of the Council by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total voting members provided that such notice of amendment motion be circulated to the membership one month in advance of the meeting.