

August 25, 2011

## Bulletin

### HEU produces incorrect information about changes to LPN regulations, scope of practice

#### *College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC expresses concern that incorrect information is misleading LPNs*

HEU is circulating inaccurate information about potential changes to practice regulations for Licensed Practical Nurses and this misleading information is causing concern and confusion for LPNs and their licensing body.

The College of Licensed Practical Nurses of BC has issued a statement to alert LPNs that "incorrect information about these changes, which is misleading to LPNs" has been published. CLPNBC also clarified the process by which LPN regulations are changed and described the responsibilities of various agencies in the regulatory process.

BCNU met with CLPNBC this week and wishes to clarify some of HEU's misleading information so LPNs can clearly understand how their scope of practice is established and how nursing regulations are changed.

- **The scope of practice and regulations for LPNs (as well as RNs, RPNs and Nurse Practitioners) is established by BC's Ministry of Health.**
  - This fall the MOH will propose amendments to LPN regulations at which time all stakeholders can comment on the proposed changes. HEU suggests that BCNU has the ability to control and the desire to reduce LPNs' scope of practice. That is untrue.
- **CLPNBC is BC's regulatory body for LPNs.**
  - CLPNBC's role is to develop the practice standards, limits and conditions that flow from MOH regulations. They are also responsible for public protection and the licensing of LPNs.
- **BCNU's responsibility is to bargain excellent collective agreements, advocate for members and advance the entire nursing profession.**
  - BCNU produces some of the best collective agreements in healthcare. We want to ensure that all nurses have supportive practice conditions and can confidently work to their full scope of practice and safely deliver care so their licenses and patients are protected.

BCNU is a professional nurses' union and we share CLPNBC's desire that LPNs receive accurate information about their practice standards. Questions can be directed to Frank Morgan, BCNU Coordinator at 1 800 663 9991.

LPNs can learn more about their college's role in developing practice standards at [CLPNBC.org](http://CLPNBC.org).