

# Office of the Chief Nurse – Communiqué

September 2009

*Nurse Policy Branch: Building capacity and capability in the Victorian nursing workforce.*

A significant milestone in Victoria has recently been achieved with the [announcement](#) that there are now **10,515 EFT** more (net increase) nurses and midwives in the public sector since 1999.

*This is an extraordinary achievement and reflects significant investment by government and health service providers to create a health care environment in Victoria where nurses want to work.*

*We now have more nurses than ever before in Victoria. In fact, for every nurse that goes off the Nurses Board of Victoria register, 1.5 are added.*

*However, this position is by no means guaranteed into the future given the ageing demographic, social fiscal and employment trends.*

*It is important that we leverage off our recruitment success and focus on retention to ensure that nurses and midwives are engaged in a way that allows them to achieve balance between work and their private lives. Flexible rostering arrangements and employment practices will come much more to the fore as will a greater emphasis on teamwork, collaboration and partnerships.*



**Adj Professor Belinda Moyes**  
Director, Nurse Policy Branch/Principal Nurse Advisor

## Bringing Nurses Back into the Workforce

Health services currently participating in BNBW are reminded that the Minimum Data Set (MDS) and financial report for the April-September 2009 period are due to NPB by **October 5th 2009**.

New participating health services are required to commence an MDS template and number the participants. For assistance contact:

**NPB Contact:** [Cathrine.Klomp@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:Cathrine.Klomp@dhs.vic.gov.au)

## State Nursing & Midwifery Awards 2009

Congratulations to all the 2009 nominees and winners. This is the seventh year of the awards and

**Office of the Chief Nurse Communiqués** are produced monthly for Directors of Nursing of public health services. Communiqués are also available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website <http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/principal>

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each year it is a highpoint of our work program to host them. For information and to view photos, go to:

<http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/awards>

## Division 2 Grants second round open!

Public health services are invited to apply for the second round of Division 2 Grants. Applications close at **5pm, 14 October 2009**.

Grant guidelines and application forms available at:

[www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/division\\_2\\_strategy/division-2-grant-program](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/division_2_strategy/division-2-grant-program)

**NPB Contact:** [Bridget.Willett@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:Bridget.Willett@dhs.vic.gov.au)

## Occupational Violence Prevention Fund (OVPF) Round 3

The third and final round of the OVPF will open on **6 October 2009**. The fund guidelines and application forms will be available after this date on:

[www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/promoting/noviolence](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/promoting/noviolence)

## NP scholarships Round 2010

Applications for NP scholarships for eligible nurses undertaking studies in 2010 will open on **30 October** and close on 7 December 2009.

Scholarship guidelines and application will be on:

[www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner/nurse-practitioner-scholarships](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner/nurse-practitioner-scholarships)

## Nurse Educator Forum Registration Open!

Online registration for the 2009 Nurse Educators Forum (on 22 October) is now open. There is no cost for attending but registration is required as places are limited. Registrations will close **9 October 2009** (or earlier if places filled).

[www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/whats\\_new](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/whats_new)

