

Office of the Chief Nurse – Communiqué

February 2009

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

The last couple of weeks have been a particularly challenging time for many nurses and midwives in Victoria. I have been privileged to hear of many wonderful stories of nurses' compassion, caring, dedication and sheer hard work and endurance not to mention the fact that many worked tirelessly when they had lost property or loved ones or were worried about their homes and families whilst at work.

Many nurses and midwives in Victoria offered their services in a voluntary capacity and many nurses in fire affected areas offered to help colleagues in more affected areas - this is further testament to the positive collaborative spirit that is Nursing in Victoria.

A large number of our colleagues have had little respite over the past couple of weeks and are still unable to rest as they continue to have the worry of fire threat to contend with in their communities. I sincerely hope that the time comes soon for a well deserved rest and that they and their communities can soon begin to build forward from this terrible time.

To those of you who have lost property, friends and loved ones our thoughts and hearts are with you as you endeavour to come to terms with your grief and loss.

Thankyou to all nurses in Victoria for your hard work and positive spirit - you should feel very, very proud of all that you have done and continue to do.



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

DONs Connections & Directions Forum 2

Following on from the highly successful DONs Connections & Directions Forum in 2008, a second forum has been scheduled for the 31 March 2009 at Zinc.

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>

Department of Human Services

At this forum the Nurse Policy Branch will be facilitating a strategic conversation about Clinical Placements. This will include discussion on national and local work.

I warmly invite all Directors of Nursing/Executive DoN to attend. An advance notice flier has already been emailed to DoNs for you can book the date in your diary and an agenda will be circulated shortly.

Please RSVP to Jane McKinna by Friday **20 March, 2009**.

NPB Contact: jane.mckinna@dhs.vic.gov.au.

VNPP Round 4.1 Reports

The final reports of the Round 4.1 rural NP Service Plans are now available on the *Nursing in Victoria* website.

As the work on the first wave of NP models in renal and stroke care (Rounds 4.2 and 4.3) is also now concluding those reports will also be made available of our website over the coming weeks.

www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner

National Health & Hospital Reform Commission

The recently released interim report of the Commission (*A Healthier Future for all Australians - Interim Report December 2008*) is a document that has relevance for us all.

Responses to the interim report are invited (closing **16 March 2009**) and can be submitted preferably electronically using the template provided.

To access the feedback form:

<http://www.nhhrc.org.au/internet/nhhrc/publishing.nsf/Content/feedback-1jp>

To access a copy of the Interim report:

<http://www.nhhrc.org.au/internet/nhhrc/publishing.nsf/Content/interim-report-december-2008>