

Office of the Chief Nurse – Communiqué

November 2009

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

The Branch has had a busy month and there is another full month ahead.

Here are a few areas of work we have been progressing that I believe have current implications for your organisations.



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

Leadership Series: Dr Polly Bednash

Dr Polly Bednash, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing will speak at the RACV Club on **Tuesday 10 November 2009 2-5 pm.**

Polly's topics are 'Articulating the value of nurses and nursing in the evolving health context' and 'Strengthening the links between clinical practice, education and workforce planning and development'.

Places are limited. To attend, please register your place by contacting jane.mckinna@dhs.vic.gov.au before **4pm 6 November.**

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

Focus groups with nurse's and midwives

Throughout November-December, NBP will be progressing work involving focus groups with nurses and midwives across metropolitan and rural regions. The focus groups are being conducted externally but NBP will be seeking assistance from Directors of Nursing to circulate fliers to "recruit" your staff and their friends take part (outside their employment context).

The focus group cohorts to be conducted are:

- "Older" nurses and midwives – as part of the 'Retaining the mature nursing workforce' project (conducted by Open Mind Research)

- Younger nurses/midwives – as part of researching communication messages about nursing/midwifery and the work of the Branch (conducted by Auspoll Research Consulting)

http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/whats_new/new_initiatives

Nurse bank draft guide & workshop

From **6 November**, a consultation draft 'Good Practice Nurse bank guide' will be disseminated for review and comment.

In addition to an on-line feedback facility, there will be a Nurse Bank Workshop on **27 November** particularly targeting those with operational responsibility for casual staff management. (Maximum attendees of 48 –registrations will open on 6 November).

Those not able to attend are encouraged to provide on line feedback and comments as these will be compiled and distributed to attendees of the workshop for group discussions.

Katy.fielding@dhs.vic.gov.au
http://www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/whats_new/new_initiatives

Nurse Practitioner Scholarships for 2010

A scholarship round for nurses working in the public sector who are undertaking courses leading to endorsement as Nurse Practitioners is now open for studies being undertaken in Semester 1 or 2 of 2010. Guidelines and the application form are available on the website.

Applications are now open and close on **7 December 2009.**

Applicants will be notified by **11 January 2010** with acceptances to be confirmed by **15 February 2010.**

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www.health.vic.gov.au/nursing/furthering/practitioner/nurse-practitioner-scholarships

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 Health

