



N E W S R E L E A S E

NANB's AGM Addresses Cannabis in the Workplace

FREDERICTON, May 10, 2018 — New Brunswick's largest group of health care professionals, representing 8,600 registered nurses and nurse practitioners in the province, convene today for an Annual General Meeting (AGM) welcoming keynote speaker Dr. Bill Howatt, Morneau Shepell, to speak on a topic that will impact nurses and nurse regulators when cannabis becomes legal.

"By surveying cannabis bias' and identifying what is our concern about legalization, we can recognize things to consider while preparing for cannabis in the workplace," says Dr. Howatt,. "What we do know is there is a definite link between stress and addiction in the workplace."

"As nurses, we are highly aware that stress is a major factor on personal health, engagement and productivity in the workplace," says Karen Frenette, President of the Nurses Association of New Brunswick (NANB). "It is important we prepare for the impact cannabis will have on an already highly stressed work environment and identify ways to support one another."

The keynote address scheduled for 13:00, will provide valuable information providing a forum for nurses to learn and explore the relationship between cannabis and dependency; the link between stress and addiction as well as addiction and mental health; and the impact of cannabis legalization on the workplace. Cannabis is already prevalent and will impact nurses through patients in their care, colleagues, friends, family and potentially at a personal level.

Today's AGM is scheduled to begin at 09:00 at the Fredericton Convention Centre providing an opportunity for nurses to participate in NANB's general business session highlighting: last year's activities and accomplishments; a review of the financial statement from 2017; and introduction of newly elected board directors.

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For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:
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