



NEWS RELEASE

Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC

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B.C. HONOURS EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

BURNABY, BC – The Association of Nurses and Nurse Practitioners of BC (NNPBC), the professional association in the province representing all four nursing designations, is proud to honour the exceptional individuals who have demonstrated excellence in nursing practice including ‘rising stars’ in the profession, lifetime achievement, research, advocacy, innovation, administration, education and leadership at the 2021 Nursing Awards of Excellence.

“Nurses are the backbone of our health care system and highly trusted by the public because of demonstrable leadership and commitment to high-quality patient care. The ability to honour and recognize these exceptional nurses is truly a privilege and one that we are honoured to be able to do. We all know the impact that the COVID-19 pandemic and the Overdose Crisis have taken on people and our province. Health care workers and nurses in particular have been and remain critical to our provincial responses to both of these crises. Having a night where we get to reflect on the exceptional work nurses do is an important way to acknowledge the nursing contribution to health and wellness,” said Sherri Kensall, NNPBC Board Chair.

This is NNPBC’s fourth nursing awards of excellence ceremony, the second to be held virtually due to COVID-19. This event is an opportunity to showcase unity and excellence in the profession by ensuring that all four nursing designations in British Columbia (Licensed Practical Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Registered Nurse and Registered Psychiatric Nurse), are recognized. Each of BC’s nursing designations fulfills a unique and important role in the health care system.

“The Nursing Awards of Excellence are an opportunity to shine the spotlight on our profession. The depth of nursing is so clearly demonstrated by the work of each of these 19 recipients. On behalf of NNPBC, congratulations to all of our recipients. What a privilege it is to have you as colleagues,” said Michael Sandler, NNPBC Executive Director.

Nursing Awards of Excellence winners for 2021:

- Lucy Barney, RN, MScN, Titqet Nation- *Lifetime Achievement*
- Christina Chant, RN, MSN- *Excellence in Nursing Administration*
- Patricia Dribnenki-Pennock, RPN, BScPN- *Excellence in Nursing Advocacy*
- Davina Banner, PhD RN- *Excellence in Advancing Nursing Knowledge & Research*
- Farinaz Havaei, PhD, RN, MERM- *Excellence in Advancing Nursing Knowledge & Research*
- A. Fuchsia Howard, PhD, MSN, RN- *Excellence in Advancing Nursing Knowledge & Research*
- Bernadette Pauly, RN, Ph.D- *Excellence in Advancing Nursing Knowledge & Research*
- Elisabeth Bailey, DNP, RN, RCC- *Excellence in Nursing Education*
- Monica Mitterboeck, RN, BscN, M.Ed.- *Excellence in Nursing Education*
- Francis Tenorio, RN, MSc, ENC(C)- *Excellence in Nursing Education*
- Christine Upright, RN MN- *Excellence in Nursing Education*
- Andrea Walker, RN, MSN- *Excellence in Nursing Leadership*
- Patty JD Yoon, RPN, MA- *Excellence in Nursing Leadership*
- Csandra Cooper, RPN- *Excellence in Nursing Practice*
- Jennifer Gill, LPN- *Excellence in Nursing Practice*
- Tracy Leanne Gwozd, MN-NP, CCN (C)- *Excellence in Nursing Practice*
- Avneet Khela, RN - *Excellence in Nursing Practice*
- Cindy Hansen, RN, BSN- *Innovation in Nursing*
- Caitlin Leahy, RN- *Rising Star*

NNPBC represents all four of B.C.’s nursing designations and serves as the voice for professional practice, advocacy and leadership.



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