

KATHY HOWE

NURSING LEADERSHIP FUND

Kathy Howe began her career in nursing after spending several years in the Alberta oil industry. From the moment she entered nursing school, Kathy demonstrated strong leadership, serving as Class President and Chair of the graduating committee. From her first day as a staff nurse at the Alberta Children's Hospital to her final role as CEO of the Alberta Association of Nurses (AAN), Kathy's focus has been steadfastly on nursing leadership.

Kathy graduated from Mount Royal College as part of the last class of the Diploma Nursing Program. Immediately after graduation, she pursued a Bachelor of Nursing at Athabasca University, followed by a Master of Health Studies with a focus on servant leadership. In 2025, Athabasca University recognized her contributions with its Distinguished Alumni Award.

Throughout her career, Kathy held frontline leadership roles across acute care, home care, and continuing care, including managing busy emergency departments in major urban hospitals and overseeing a large rural health region in central Alberta. In 2022, she transitioned from frontline leadership to launch the **Alberta Association of Nurses, Alberta's first professional nursing association open to all nurses—including LPNs, RNs, RPNs, NPs, student nurses, and retired nurses.**

Kathy has always championed leadership and lifelong learning, believing that leadership is not defined by a title but by the attitude and approach one brings to work and life each day. As CEO of Alberta Association of Nurses, she united Alberta's nurses to advance the profession and elevate nursing practice across the province.

One of Kathy's final initiatives as CEO was establishing a nursing scholarship fund to support ongoing education for all AAN members. In November 2025, in recognition of her remarkable leadership, achievements and dedication to advancing nursing in Alberta, the AAN Board of Directors voted to name the scholarship program in her honor by establishing *Kathy Howe Nursing Leadership Fund*. With the generosity of donors and partners, the *Kathy Howe Leadership Fund* will grow each year, enabling the support of multiple scholarships and creating a lasting impact on nursing leadership education.



"I am both honored to have led Alberta's nurses and to be recognized in this way. I am proud to know that nurses will continue to learn, lead and affect the future of nursing in Alberta for generations to come."

-Kathy Howe .

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Leadership Fund

Invest in nurses. See the difference in healthcare.