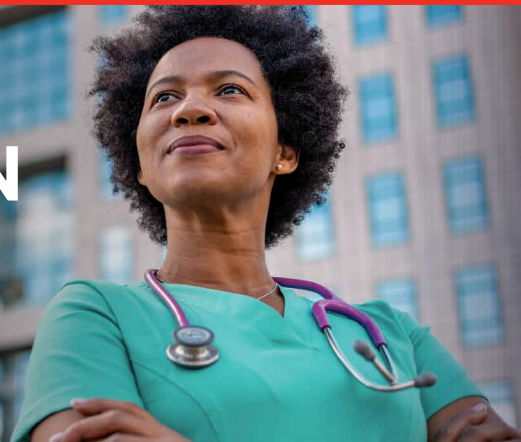




FOUNDATION FOCUS



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POWER OF PARTNERSHIPS:

STRENGTHENING NURSING IN ALBERTA AND BEYOND

Partnerships create impact by expanding opportunity and removing barriers. The growing collaboration between Canadian Nurses Foundation (CNF) and Alberta Association of Nurses (AAN) is doing exactly that—strengthening the future of nursing in Alberta through scholarships like the Ted James Scholarship and the Kathy Howe Nursing Leadership Fund.

Through these awards AAN is investing directly in nurses in Alberta who are committed to advancing their education, leadership capacity and professional practice.

The Alberta Association of Nurses' Ted James Scholarship honours the legacy of Edward (Ted) James, Founder and first President of the Alberta Psychiatric Nurses Association.

The Alberta Association of Nurses' Kathy Howe Nursing Leadership Fund represents an extraordinary chapter in Alberta's nursing history, honoring Kathy Howe—whose career spanned from staff nurse at Alberta Children's Hospital to CEO of AAN and was defined by leadership, lifelong learning, and the belief that leadership is about attitude and action, not title.



"Opening the door to more than 140 awards helps remove barriers for nurses across Alberta and provides all

of our nurses with the opportunity to grow, lead, and shape the future of care for Albertans — and the Alberta Association of Nurses is proud to invest in that."

ANNJANETTE RIDSDALE-WEDDELL

President, Alberta Association of Nurses

AAN Conference

May 7/8 2026



Alberta Association of Nurses

The Alberta Association of Nurses is pleased to invite all nurses to the 2026 annual nursing conference — "Nursing with Purpose: Turning Insight into Impact." This year's conference will celebrate the depth and diversity of nursing practice, highlighting how purpose-driven professionals across all settings are shaping the future of health care.

Register Today!



You're Invited!

From Shift to Spotlight

SAVE THE DATE:

Sept. 22, 2026 | Winnipeg, MB

Join the Canadian Nurses Foundation for an inspiring evening of connection, celebration, and impact, held at the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) Conference—the country's largest gathering of nursing leaders.



From Shift to Spotlight is a dynamic event featuring:

- Celebration of nurses
- Powerful award recipient stories
- Opportunities to give back to nursing
- Insights into CNF's national impact



Tickets: \$75 — Join us for canapés, cocktails, and a celebration!

To purchase your ticket or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Rachel Groskopf at rgroskopf@cnf-fiic.ca

Conference Dates:

September 21 – 23, 2026

CNF's From Shift to Spotlight:

September 22, 2026 (Evening Reception)

Location:

RBC Convention Centre

Canadian Nurses Association

RBC Convention Centre WINNIPEG

2026 CNA CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 21-23, 2026

THE POWER OF NURSES TO TRANSFORM HEALTH
OUR EXPERTISE, OUR IMPACTS

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

TREATY 1 TERRITORY, WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

REGISTER HERE

New Awards for 2026!

For more information, visit:
www.cnf-fiic.ca/awards-criteria/

- Taggart Parkes Foundation
- Alberta Association of Nurses' Ted James Scholarship
- Alberta Association of Nurses' Kathy Howe Nursing Leadership Award
- Ontario Black Nurses Network Award
- Canadian Nursing Students' Association & Canadian Association of Perinatal and Women's Health Nurses Award (CNSA CAPWHN Award)



BEHIND THE SCENES:

THE MERIT REVIEW PANEL

Every scholarship awarded through the Canadian Nurses Foundation reflects more than financial support — it represents a rigorous, transparent, and values-driven selection process. At the heart of that process is the Merit Review Panel (MRP).

The MRP is a national volunteer panel of more than 70 expert nurses from across Canada. Each member holds a Master's or PhD and has been selected for their leadership and expertise in nursing education and practice. These respected professionals volunteer their time to carefully evaluate applications, ensuring each award is granted fairly and on merit.

Integrity and equity guide the review process. For scholarships aligned with CNF's Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility funding, applications are reviewed by evaluators who represent the equity-deserving communities these awards are intended to support. Panel members also declare conflicts of interest and follow structured scoring criteria to ensure fairness and consistency across all applications.

We are deeply grateful to the members of the Merit Review Panel for their time, expertise, and commitment to supporting the next generation of nurses. Their careful and thoughtful reviews are essential to the integrity of the program, and without their dedication, the CNF scholarship program would not be possible.



SPOTLIGHT ON:
Dr. Cheryl Pollard,
RN, RPN, PhD, ANEF

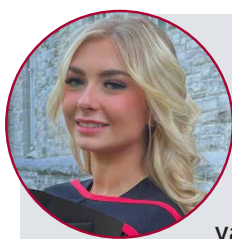
For nearly a decade, Dr. Cheryl Pollard has generously dedicated her time, energy, and expertise as Chair of Canadian Nurses Foundation's Merit Review Panel. Through countless volunteer hours, she has played an instrumental role in shaping and strengthening CNF's scholarship program, supporting the work of the MRP, and championing the next generation of nursing leaders.

Cheryl's leadership embodies the heart, grit, and commitment that define nursing excellence. With a vast amount of experience in post-secondary, most recently as Dean of Nursing at the University of Regina, and now as a full professor, she understands the evolving challenges facing nursing education — from adapting to post-pandemic realities to integrating innovative teaching and learning approaches.

As a Métis woman, Cheryl is deeply committed to advancing Indigenous knowledges and strengthening community resilience and culturally appropriate care. Drawn to institutions that authentically engage with Indigenous practices, she believes in generational impact — positioning future leaders to thrive with strength and purpose.

"Every application is an act of courage, every nurse a catalyst for change – and leadership is the responsibility to honour both. Every application carries a nurse's hope to make a difference. and our role is to honour that promise." — Cheryl Pollard

Through the expertise and dedication of volunteers like Cheryl, the MRP ensures that every award reflects fairness, excellence, and responsible stewardship — reinforcing confidence in the Foundation's commitment to advancing nursing across Canada.



ANASTASIA STACKARUK | CNF AWARD RECIPIENT **2025 CNF Recipient of the WeRPN Award in Nursing Excellence**

I am deeply honoured to receive this scholarship as a second-year nursing student. This support has played a meaningful role in allowing me to continue my studies while balancing full-time education with multiple roles in healthcare. Over the past year, I have worked in various positions while pursuing my nursing education. This experience has strengthened my resilience, time management, and commitment to my goals. This scholarship has helped alleviate financial barriers, allowing me to remain focused on my academic success and clinical development. This award has made it possible for me to continue my education, access essential clinical resources, and remain fully engaged in my learning. I am incredibly grateful for this support and for the opportunity to continue working toward a career dedicated to compassionate, patient centered care.



Thank You

TO OUR VOLUNTEER LEADERS

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

At Canadian Nurses Foundation, our work is **strengthened every day by the dedication and generosity of volunteers** who share their time, expertise, and leadership in service of nursing across Canada.

As we celebrate **National Volunteer Week (April 19–25)**, we are especially proud to celebrate and recognize the extraordinary contributions of our volunteer community.

To our **Board of Directors**, thank you for your governance, strategic direction, and thoughtful stewardship that guide the Foundation forward.

To our **Merit Review Panel**, we are deeply grateful to the expert nurse leaders who volunteer their time to review scholarship applications with rigor, fairness, and equity. Your hard work ensures that the next generation of nurses receive the support they deserve.

And to our **Event Volunteers and Foundation champions**, thank you for the energy and care you bring to our gatherings, campaigns, and events. You help create the connections and moments that inspire our community.

To every volunteer who contributes their leadership and passion: **thank you**. Your commitment strengthens the nursing profession, empowers learners, and advances health care for communities across Canada.



With gratitude,
Chris McGarvey,
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Nurses
Foundation

A MONTHLY COMMITMENT TO NURSES

For nurses, caring doesn't end when a shift does. Across Canada, members of the Canadian Nurses Foundation community are continuing that commitment by supporting the profession through monthly giving—reliable contributions that help sustain and grow vital programs for nurses.

Monthly donors play a powerful role in strengthening the future of nursing. Their steady support allows Canadian Nurses Foundation to plan ahead, invest in long-term initiatives, and respond to the evolving needs of the nursing community.

One dedicated supporter, who spent decades caring for patients, now gives back to the profession in a different way—by helping ensure the next generation of nurses has the support they need.



“As a nurse for 44 years, supporting Canadian Nurses Foundation as a monthly donor has been incredibly meaningful to me. Knowing that my contributions help advance nursing education, research, mentorship and mental health programming for nurses gives me a real sense of purpose. I'm proud to be part of a community that makes a tangible difference in the lives of nurses every day.”

SANDRA STEC, donor since 1994

Monthly donations provide the dependable funding that makes our work possible. They help fund scholarships for future nursing leaders, support innovative research that improves patient care, create mentorship opportunities for nurses at every stage of their careers, and expand mental health programming that supports nurses facing increasing pressures in the profession.

Most importantly, monthly giving ensures that nurses across Canada can count on ongoing support—just as patients count on them every day.

Become part of this community of committed supporters.

Starting a monthly gift is simple, flexible, and one of the most powerful ways to create lasting change for nurses and the communities they serve. To begin your monthly donation or to learn more, **Claire Lewis, Director of Philanthropy and Engagement**, would be happy to connect and can be reached at clewis@cnf-fiic.ca or **1-844-204-0124 Ext. 222**.

Invest in nurses. See the difference in healthcare.

