Notice: New Prescribing Authority - Nurse Practitioners
Date: Oct. 31, 2014

Effective November 1st, Nurse Practitioners will have the authority to prescribe monitored drugs in Nova Scotia.

Please see the message below from the Minister of Health and Wellness, Leo Glavine.

Good Afternoon,

I am pleased to announce that new regulations to appoint the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia as a licensing authority under the Prescription Monitoring Act were approved October 28, 2014 by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, with an effective date of November 1, 2014.

These new regulations enable nurse practitioners to register with the Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program and prescribe monitored drugs in Nova Scotia. Enabling nurse practitioners to prescribe monitored drugs allows these highly competent healthcare providers to efficiently deliver comprehensive quality care to patients. This demonstrates government’s commitment to supporting the important work that our nurse practitioners do by facilitating the optimization of their scope of practice.

I would like to thank the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia for its work in developing clinical practice standards, education and training to support nurse practitioners in the prescribing of controlled drugs and substances.

I would also like to acknowledge the support provided by the Nova Scotia College of Pharmacists, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia, the Nova Scotia Prescription Monitoring Program Board, and all organizations that participated on the College of Registered Nurses of Nova Scotia Controlled Drugs and Substances Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

Leo A. Glavine, Minister