

News Release

2015 SRNA Recognizes Registered Nursing Excellence in Saskatchewan

REGINA, May 5, 2015 – On May 6, the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA) will honour the outstanding achievements of former and practicing registered nurse and registered nurse (nurse practitioner) members at the Association's Black and White with a Spark of Red – SRNA Banquet and Awards Celebration in Saskatoon. SRNA Awards of Excellence were established to recognize RNs and RN(NP)s as well as members of the public who have made an outstanding contribution in nursing practice and/or to health care.

The SRNA celebrates the exceptional contributions of each of the following award recipients:

- Elizabeth Van Valkenburg Award for Excellence in Nursing Education is given to a registered nurse or group of registered nurses who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of nursing education: Reny Loewen, RN, Saskatoon.
- Effie Feeny Award for Excellence in Nursing Research is given to a registered nurse or group of registered nurses who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of nursing or health-related research that enhances the nursing profession: Louise Racine, RN, PhD, Saskatoon.
- Jean Browne Award for Excellence in Nursing Practice Leadership is given to a registered nurse or group of registered nurses whose leadership has made an outstanding contribution to the profession of nursing at the local, province, national or international level: Susan Bazylewski, RN, Saskatoon.
- Nora Armstrong Award for Excellence in Mentorship is presented to a SRNA practicing member who has exhibited exceptional mentoring abilities in any of the nursing domains: clinical, education, research, administration or policy: Marlene Thompson, RN, Buffalo Narrows.
- Ruth Hicks Award for Student Leadership is given to a nursing student or group of nursing students who has made a significant contribution and demonstrated leadership as a student leader or group. The student(s) must be enrolled in a Saskatchewan-based degree nursing program: Lori Powell, Saskatoon.
- SRNA Memorial Book, celebrating the lives and achievements of former SRNA members: Diana Davidson Dick (late of Saskatoon) and Kathy Gerwing (late of Saskatoon).

“RNs and RN(NP)s are leaders in healthy communities. Each year, we pay tribute to outstanding achievements of Saskatchewan RNs and RN(NP)s at our annual recognition

event." Karen Eisler, RN, PhD, Executive Director, SRNA commented, "Registered nursing is a profession of knowledgeable and dedicated individuals who are accountable for the care they provide. We are proud of our profession's contribution to safe quality care for the people of Saskatchewan."

This year, the guest speaker is Brian Thwaites is an award-winning learning and communication whiz with a wealth of experience in both the public and private sectors. He's an engaging and entertaining "brain trainer" who shows people how to enhance the way they think, innovate, solve problems, and manage change.

SRNA is the profession-led regulatory body for the province's approximately 11,200 registered nurses including 198 nurse practitioners. The Registered Nurses Act (1988) describes the SRNA's mandate in setting standards of education and practice for the profession and registering nurses to ensure better Health for all through nursing regulation, professional practice, and collaboration. The SRNA is responsible for ensuring continuing competence, professional conduct, standards of practice, a code of ethics and the approval of nursing education programs.

For more information, contact the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association:

Shelley Svedahl, Manager, Communications & Public Relations

Ph: (306) 359-4216 Cell: 306-539-1442 ssvedahl@srna.org