



Saskatchewan Registered  
Nurses' Association  
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## **Celebrate National Nurses Week First Nurse Practitioner Licensed in Saskatchewan Ten Years Ago**

**Regina, May 12, 2014** – Over 11,000 Registered Nurses in Saskatchewan will join their counterparts in Canada and throughout the world this week to celebrate their profession. Each year, the nursing profession is celebrated during the week of Florence Nightingale's birthday which was on May 12.

This year the Saskatchewan Registered Nurses' Association (SRNA) marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nurse Practitioner in Saskatchewan. In April of 2004, SRNA registered the first RN(NP) in Regina, and today that number has grown from 42 to 178. Karen Eisler, RN, PhD, Executive Director of the SRNA commented, "We've come a long way in just ten years, and the number of NPs continues to rise in response to the need for individual and family-centred care in Saskatchewan. RNs and NPs make a difference in the lives of individuals and families."

This year the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) has selected the theme, '*Nursing: a Leading Force for Change*'. National Nursing Week is an opportunity to promote and show appreciation for the vital role nursing plays in the health system and in the life of every Canadian. It is also a time to make note of the contribution the profession makes in helping the people of Saskatchewan maintain, and enhance their health and quality of life.

Eisler added, "National Nursing week is not just an opportunity to recognize the outstanding individual and family-centered care that RNs and NPs provide; it is also a chance to call attention to the role of the profession as vital team members and leaders in our health system."

*The SRNA, established in 1917, is the profession-led regulatory body for the province's RNs and RN(NP)s. 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 competent, caring knowledge-based care for the people of Saskatchewan. 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:**

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