

## STRENGTHENING CANADA'S HEALTH SYSTEM BY *ADVANCING HEALTH THROUGH NURSING SCIENCE*

The Nursing Research Fund expired in March 2009, just as the investments were starting to pay off. Research must continue with new funding.

**The Canadian Consortium for Nursing Research and Innovation is asking you to support a new federal government fund of \$55 million over 10 years for *Advancing Health Through Nursing Science*.**

This new *Advancing Health Through Nursing Science* research fund will enable nurses to continue growing Canadian science and innovation and strengthening the health system and the economy.

**The expired Nursing Research Fund provided significant benefits, including the following:**

**Shorter wait times:** *Dr. Alba DiCenso's* in-depth research on nurse practitioner roles has reduced wait times and improved access to care through effective integration of nurse practitioners across the country.

**Improved health for young women:** *Dr. Elizabeth Saewyc's* research on sexual health behaviours helped to determine the appropriate age for administering the HPV vaccine.

**Stronger Aboriginal communities:** Research by *Dr. David Gregory* and *Professor Fjola Hart-Wasekeesikaw* on how to recruit and retain aboriginal nurses resulted in a three-fold increase in the number of aboriginal nursing students over five years.

Canada's toughest health-care system challenges were being met with innovative, cost-saving solutions thanks to the Nursing Research Fund.

- ✓ *Dr. Judith Ritchie, Ms. Patricia O'Connor* and others implemented a best practice nursing guideline that reduced the incidence of pressure ulcers from 21% in 2003 to 10.6% in 2008. Potential cost savings... \$2.9 million for every 1,000 patients.
- ✓ In a study of six million home care visits, *Dr. Susan VanDeVelde-Coke* found that 10% of clients could benefit from the same or better quality care if they were treated at nursing clinics rather than in their homes. This can free up 146 full-time equivalent registered nurses, saving \$10 million.
- ✓ *Dr. Celeste Johnston's* research on the assessment and measurement of pain in preterm infants influenced the guidelines for pain management of the Canadian and American pediatric societies.

Your support of a new nursing research fund — **Advancing Health Through Nursing Science** — is a worthwhile investment.

**Nurses make a difference, and so does nursing research:**

- Nurses have the greatest impact on health care. They are the largest group of health-care providers in Canada and spend the most time with patients and their families.
- Nurses are at work across the continuum of care throughout all communities in Canada to innovate and help shape system transformation.
- Nursing is a knowledge-based profession that depends on an evolving base of nursing science.
- Nursing knowledge is distinct from the knowledge of medicine and other health disciplines and directly affects health care for patients and the health-care system.

Support our proposal for **Advancing Health Through Nursing Science** with renewed research funding.

**To find out more, contact:**

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