



Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing  
Association canadienne des écoles de sciences infirmières

## NEWS RELEASE

### **Educators Tackle Canada's Nursing Shortage: CASN's Nursing Education Summit being held next week**

**OTTAWA, Nov.5** - There's a shortage of nurses in Canada and nurse educators are tackling this mushrooming issue head-on. "Research shows that a well educated professional nursing workforce has a critical, positive impact on patient survival and recovery from a range of illnesses," says Dr. Ellen Rukholm, Executive Director of Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN).

CASN is hosting a **Nursing Education Summit: Vision into Action** at the Hilton Lac Leamy Hotel on Nov. 13-14. Over 200 nurse educators, researchers, regulators, and government representatives will address how nursing education can be more responsive to population health needs and support health human resources (HHR) planning across Canada. The group of experts is working collectively in order to address the critical situation in Canada's healthcare system, nursing education, and nursing attrition. CASN will develop a white paper outlining recommendations from the Summit.

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"Canadian healthcare is increasingly complex and multi-faceted," Dr. Ellen Rukholm said. Nursing education must prepare a stable supply of registered nurses with the "ability to provide quality healthcare to meet population health needs now and in the future."

"We are also facing a crisis with plummeting numbers of nursing faculty across Canada." In 2005, 43 per cent of Canadian nursing faculty were 50 years of age or older. At next week's Nursing Education Summit, our esteemed speakers and participants will address the key connections between nursing education and the supply of nurses in Canada's health care system.

"Canada needs quality education for a quality healthcare system," stated Dr. Ellen Rukholm. "Nurses save peoples lives but time is working against us."

CASN is the national voice for nursing education, research and scholarship that represents baccalaureate and graduate nursing programs across Canada.

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