



## STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

### Registered Practical Nurse Upgrading Program Offered On Site at Castlevue Wychwood Towers

<b>Date:</b>	February 6, 2008
<b>To:</b>	Advisory Committee on Homes for the Aged
<b>From:</b>	General Manager, Homes for the Aged
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 21
<b>Reference Number:</b>	

#### SUMMARY

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Continuing education is an expectation of all registered nursing staff. An exciting project is taking place at Castlevue Wychwood Towers (CWT) and this report describes the program and its objectives.

#### Financial Impact

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

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#### DECISION HISTORY

Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs) graduate with a "certificate" from community colleges. In 2004, community colleges in cooperation with the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and the College of Nurses of Ontario (CNO) increased the preparation of Practical Nurses to a "diploma". This change increased the educational content from three (3) semesters to four (4) semesters.

Many of the staff currently working in the Toronto Homes for the Aged graduated with a certificate. They were grandfathered and upgrading to a diploma is not required for College of Nurses registration.

In response to staff inquiries about an on-site RPN Diploma program, the Educator at CWT invited the Coordinator of the George Brown College, Practical Nursing Diploma Completion (Bridging Program) to present the "bridging" course to interested RPNs. Nineteen (19) RPNs from CWT and six (6) from Fudger House and other homes enrolled in the program which held on site at CWT.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

This program offers Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs) and Internationally Educated Nurses (IENs) the opportunity to meet educational requirements for a Practical Nursing Diploma. George Brown College awards a Practical Nursing Diploma to each student who successfully completes this program. Program content meets the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and the College of Nurses of Ontario standards and competency guidelines.

This program can be completed in 10 months in its compressed format to a maximum of 30 months. The program consists of eleven (11) compulsory courses and one (1) elective. Three (3) courses are offered per annum, one evening per week. The clinical component may be completed at the place of employment to apply and journal learning for feedback to the school.

## **COMMENTS**

The Homes for the Aged supports and congratulates the staff at CWT for embarking on this upgrading project and recognizes the positive impact it will have on the quality of life of our residents and quality of worklife for staff.

## **CONTACT**

Patricia Carnegy, Coordinator, Staff Education

Tel: (416) 392-8490; Fax: (416) 392-4180; E-mail: [PCarnegy@toronto.ca](mailto:PCarnegy@toronto.ca)

## **SIGNATURE**

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Sandra Pitters  
General Manager, Homes for the Aged