



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patient Centered Care Focus of Two-Day Nursing Education Conference Funded by Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation

Saint John, NB: A nurse's job is multi-faceted. Nurses are both the lead clinical caregiver and the main point of contact for patients and their loved ones. It's a fundamental and challenging role – one that often goes uncelebrated.

But thanks to the support of the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation and a committed team of volunteers, close to 200 Registered Nurses (RNs) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) from the Saint John Region will come together for two days of networking and professional development, focused on patient centered care, one of Horizon's strategic directions over the next five years.

Patient Centered Care: The Journey Continues conference runs from **Tuesday, March 22 to Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at the Marco Polo Cruise Terminal on Water Street in Saint John** and is made possible through donations to the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation's Education Pillar. The goal is to reenergize the nursing workforce through the power of stories, the strength of networking and the sharing of knowledge between experienced professionals, then to use the tools to enhance the care they give to patients every day.

Of the 120 participants who completed the post-event survey at last year's inaugural conference 100% gave a positive response. 25% of participants described the experience as "very good" while 75% said it was "excellent. One participant wrote, "Thank you for the past two days, because it reminded me why I became a nurse. Everyone who attended those two days felt valued as a nurse and as an employee."

"The conference is an opportunity to support professional and personal development for our nurses," said Catherine Hinton, Vice President of Philanthropy at the Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation. "We are thrilled that our donors support a Nursing Education Fund so our nurses can access top-notch professional development conferences, courses, and workshops. Nurses are at the heart of health care, and networking opportunities such as this conference reinvigorate them – it's like nourishment for their nursing souls."

The **Saint John Regional Hospital Foundation** raises funds to support excellence and innovation in the areas of equipment, mental health, research, education, and patient comfort at the Saint John Regional Hospital, the largest healthcare centre in the province – providing world-class care for all New Brunswickers.

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