



CANADIAN  
ASSOCIATION OF  
CRITICAL  
CARE  
NURSES



ASSOCIATION  
CANADIENNE DES  
INFIRMIÈRES ET DES  
INFIRMIERS EN  
SOINS  
CRITIQUES

## Critical Connections Bulletin

August 2026

*Congratulations*

### 2026 CACCN Award Recipients

Celebrating excellence, expertise, achievement,  
professional development, research and innovation!

**Chelsea Simpkin**

BBraun Sharing Expertise Award

**Mélanie Gauthier**

Graduate Bursary

**Winston Bui**

Chasing Excellence Award

**Chelsea Simpkin, Joseph Harrigan, Diana Lemieux,**

**Sarah K. Andersen, & Sadie Deschenes**

Spacelabs Healthcare Innovative Project Award - 1<sup>st</sup> Place

**Martyna Rembisz, Maria Damian & Catherine LeBlanc**

Spacelabs Healthcare Innovative Project Award - 2nd Place

**Sarah Crowe**

Research Grant

**Laura Freeman**

Canadian Intensive Care Week Spotlight Challenge

**Kelly Bubb, Rebecca Gunn**

**Christine Filipek, Katie Grant & Beth Linseman**

Certification Bursary

**WELCOME**

### New & Returning Members!

Thank you for your  
membership and support!

We look forward to your  
participation in your specialty  
nursing association!

**THANK YOU**

To the CACCN Members who  
assisted with reviewing the  
2026 Award applications.

We appreciate your expertise  
and support.

### Membership Payment Processing Changes

**What has changed?** CACCN has  
successfully moved to a new payment  
processing system as of August 3, 2026.

**What does this mean for members?**  
Members previously on continuous  
renewal will be required to renew their  
membership updating their payment  
information through the [website](#) or the  
direct link provided in the renewal email  
sent 45 to 60 days before renewal.

**Continuous Renewal FAQs:** The  
[FAQs](#) remain unchanged.

### MEMBER REFERRAL DRAW

Thank you and congratulations to **Samantha S**, from Manitoba  
and **Shelley S**, from Nova Scotia, recipients of a one-year membership extension for  
their member referrals Q1 (May to July).

Thank you to all members who referred new members to the association!  
We appreciate your support!

**Want to know how you could win?**

<https://caccn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Member-Referrals-Feb2025-Flyer.pdf>

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO PLAN TO  
JOIN US IN SEPTEMBER!**

## **Canadian Critical Care Nursing Conference 2026**

Join critical care nurses in beautiful Charlottetown,  
PE - September 29–30

**#CCNC2026**

### **Why You'll Want to Be There**

- **Two preconference events** on September 28 to help you kick off your conference experience
- **Two full days of inspiring education** designed for critical care nursing professionals
- **Keynote Speaker:** Kathleen Vollman
- **Invited Speakers:** Canadian Blood Services
- **Sponsored Speakers:** LEOPharma, Cardinal Health, Vantive Canada, Baxter Corporation, Philips.
- **Two Dinner & Learn events** for even more opportunities to connect and learn
- **Earn continuing learning hours** while investing in your professional growth
- Connect with peers, sponsors and supporters through networking, posters, and exhibits
- Enjoy **Nurses Night Out** on September 29 to make the most of your time with colleagues

### **Register Early and Save!**

#### **Early bird pricing ends August 24**

- **Early bird member rates:**
- 2-day conference: \$550 plus HST (15%)
- 1-day conference: \$300 plus HST (15%)

**Register and pay before the early bird deadline for  
a chance to win your conference tuition.**



**Visit the conference webpage!**

<https://cacn.ca/2026-canadian-critical-care-nursing-conference/>

# **CONFERENCE FLYER**



## **PRECONFERENCE**

### **Enhance your conference experience!**

**Register to attend one of two preconference events!**

**Innovating together: Let's collaborate!**

**September 28 @ 1300 hrs AST**

**Sponsored by Cardinal Health**

**Registration:** [Cardinal Health – Fill out form](#)

Join us for an interactive feedback session as we explore future innovation within intermittent pneumatic compression (IPC) devices, focused on sleeve redesign. Share your insights to help shape next-generation solutions that enhance patient care, usability, and support more sustainable product design.  
*Lunch will be provided.*

**PrisMax PowerCourse – Understanding Extracorporeal Therapies**

**September 28 @ 1300 hrs AST**

**Sponsored by Vantive**

**Registration:** [PrisMaxPowerCourse](#)

Plan to attend this dynamic 4-hour educational experience featuring gamified stations, hands-on learning, and concise evidence-based discussions to support clinician engagement and practical application in critical care.  
*Requirement that attendees must be CRRT trained to participate.  
Limited spaces available!*

## GET ON BOARD!

**Board of Director Nominations**  
**One Position: Central Region**



CACCN is seeking an interested Association member to serve as a **volunteer Board Member** on the **National Board of Directors** for a two-year term from May 1, 2027, to April 30, 2029.

**Region:** Central

**Region Eligibility:** Members from Manitoba and Ontario

**Position(s):** One (1)

**Eligibility Criteria:** Active member of CACCN, holding a registered nursing license, and currently working in critical care.

### Why Serve on the Board?

Serving on the Board is an opportunity to use your skills, experience, and voice to make a meaningful impact in your specialty nursing association.

As a Board Member, you will help provide governance and operational leadership, support strategic direction, and contribute to the Association's long-term strength and sustainability.

### Ideal Candidate Profile

- Passionate about critical care nursing
- Enthusiastic, creative,
- and positive in their approach
- Collaborative and comfortable
- working as part of a team
- Able to contribute thoughtful leadership
- and sound judgment
- Interested in supporting Association growth and sustainability

Previous experience in a not-for-profit setting is considered an asset; however, a strong commitment to CACCN's mission is most important.

**Nominations will open September 1, 2026.**

**Nominations will be accepted until 1600 hrs ET  
on October 1, 2026.**

**More information**

<https://caccn.ca/about-caccn/annual-general-meeting/>

## Canadian Nurses Association Certification Program

CNA certification is a nationally recognized nursing specialty credential for nurses.

Earning this credential shows your employer, peers and clients that you are a dedicated professional committed to lifelong learning, patient advocacy and professional practice. Certification is a great way to demonstrate your continuing competence in your nursing specialty. It can also help you fulfil some of the quality assurance program requirements of your employer and/or licensing body.

### Fall exams

- **Apply before** September 30
- **Exam writing window:** November 1 – 15
- **Receive your results in December**

### Renewal by continuous learning

- **Apply before** December 15, 2026

## CACCN Certification Bursaries

CACCN offers bursaries to support members pursuing **initial or renewal** Critical Care Nursing Certification.

### Initial Certification

If you successfully write the Critical Care Nursing Certification examination through the Canadian Nurses Association this year (**2026**), and are successful, you may be eligible to apply for the CACCN Initial Certification Bursary.

Two bursaries are available. Each bursary is valued at \$500.

### Renewal Certification

If you successfully renew your certification this year (**2026**), you may be eligible to apply for the CACCN Renewal Certification Bursary. Four bursaries are available.

Each bursary is valued at \$250.

**Criteria at**

<https://caccn.ca/awardsandrecognition/>



**Register for the SickKids Advanced Cardiology Education (ACE) Program! Starting Sept. 4**

A 33-week online paediatric cardiac care curriculum that includes:

- Assessment and diagnosis
- Physiology and morphology
- Treatment and management
- Postoperative challenges
- Subspecialty areas

Gain up to 200 CPD credits. Accredited by Continuing Professional Development, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto

QR Code: 

ace.program@sickkids.ca

**SickKids** | Advanced Cardiology Education (ACE) Program

**Register today** to support your practice and expand your professional network. The **SickKids ACE Program** offers critical care nurses the opportunity to learn from renowned SickKids faculty and connect with interprofessional peers from around the world. With over 100 experts contributing to the program, participants gain practical insights into assessment, diagnosis, treatment, post-operative challenges, and other essential areas of paediatric cardiac care. Live sessions are held every Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time and are available on demand for flexible review. Participants may also earn up to 200 learning credits and an accredited Advanced Certificate of Completion.

## JOURNAL CLUB

### Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2026

This journal club reviews the newly published sepsis guidelines focused on the critical care unit guidelines- what's new, what's changed, and what's still unknown.

**Article:** Prescott, Hallie C., MD, MSc; Antonelli, Massimo, MD; et al. Surviving Sepsis Campaign: International Guidelines for Management of Sepsis and Septic Shock 2026. Critical Care Medicine (J):10.1097/CCM.00000000000007075, March 23, 2026. | DOI: [10.1097/CCM.00000000000007075](https://doi.org/10.1097/CCM.00000000000007075)

**Moderator:** Shirley Marr, MHScN, MHEd, RN, CNCC(C)



LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/COntJrnlClub2608>  
Passcode: fE9gTY\*w

**Central Ontario Chapter**

**Open Access until August 20**



## Educational Events

### Beyond Tidal Volume: Driving Pressure and Lung-Protective Ventilation in PICU

20 August 2026 10:30 AM ET

The 8th session of the WFPICCS Pediatric Respiratory Critical Care Series (PRCCS) will explore "Beyond Tidal Volume: Driving Pressure and Lung-Protective Ventilation in PICU" and discuss how driving pressure can support faster, safer, more effective mechanical ventilation in critically ill children.

**Registration:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/-SudVKgrQrW-KwqnX2n\\_MQ#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/-SudVKgrQrW-KwqnX2n_MQ#/registration)

### "Safe care for noncommunicable diseases"

#### ISMP – Med Safety Exchange

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

Join your colleagues across Canada for complimentary 50-minute webinars to share, learn and discuss incident reports, trends and emerging issues in medication safety!

**Registration:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_XoEXd\\_xJRCaWz1OMNrBXKA#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XoEXd_xJRCaWz1OMNrBXKA#/registration)



GSICU  
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA HOSPITAL



Register Here  
Early Bird Deadline  
Aug 31

### AB CACCN & GSICU CRITICAL CARE SYMPOSIUM 2026

*Beyond the Alarms*



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026  
08:00 – 16:00**

CACCN MEMBER EARLY BIRD – \$20  
NON-MEMBER EARLY BIRD – \$40

@ALBERTACACCN

BERNARD SNELL HALL, EDMONTON

Please contact Angie @ [asangha@ualberta.ca](mailto:asangha@ualberta.ca) for any questions or concerns