

PN Exam Transition Work Group Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2020

Attendees

Lise Bonin, Silvana MacDonald, Sandra DeLuca, Anne Marie Shin, Donna Rawlin, Erin Tilley, Angela Smith

Regrets

Wendy Ellis, June MacDonald-Jenkins, Tania Pynn

Welcome and introductions

Everyone was thanked for attending today's meeting. We welcomed a new representative from Lambton College: Silvana MacDonald.

December CNO Council updates

Council approved no limit on the number of attempts a writer can take to pass the REx-PN. The decision was evidence-informed, based on the CAT (Computerized Adaptive Test) format and exam security features. Exam writers will need to wait 60 days between attempts (maximum 6 attempts/year).

Council also approved an end date for the CPNRE: December 31, 2021. REx-PN will be implemented January 4, 2022.

Applicants who fail the CPNRE can write the REx-PN. See website for FAQ <http://www.cno.org/en/become-a-nurse/entry-to-practice-examinations/rpn-exam/options-when-failing-the-cpnre-frequently-asked-questions/>.

Field testing update

NCSBN has completed their survey to identify dates and times for field testing to be held at each Ontario PN program. 22/24 schools are participating with field testing in Spring 2020. More operational details will be released in the coming months to prepare for this volunteer opportunity. Thanks to everyone for their participation and support!

French lexicon panel

CNO hosted a French lexicon panel in October 2019. The working group reached consensus on a group of terms. Follow up with external partners has been completed, which will be reviewed and validated by ON panel members. The REx-PN style guide developed will inform translation of the Test Plan, practice exam and REx-PN. Thank you to participants from La Cité and Collège Boréal; their time and expertise was very helpful and appreciated.

Item writer panel

A REx-PN item writing panel (IWP) will be held Feb. 18 – 21, 2020 in Chicago. CNO has selected five PN faculty from across the province using the recruitment criteria outlined on our website <http://www.cno.org/en/learn-about-standards-guidelines/get-involved/seeking-item-writers-for-the-new-practical-nursing-pn-exam/>. Thank you to all candidates who applied for this volunteer opportunity.

Academic workshop planning

Academic workshops will be held to update PN faculty about the purpose of the regulatory exam, CAT exam methodology and an overview of REx-PN test plan. The first one is planned for April 27, 2020. Faculty will have a hands-on opportunity to practice item-writing, and group discussion will take place about how to help prepare students for the new exam. The workshop will be available both in-person at CNO and remotely, using Zoom technology. Invitations will be sent to all programs for distribution to their faculty. We encourage all PN faculty and coordinators to attend. Additional workshops are planned for Fall 2020 and Spring/Fall 2021.

Mapping RPN ETP competencies to PA statements

Mapping workshops were held at CNO in November 2019, and included a faculty representative from ON and BC. The RPN ETP competencies were mapped to the Practice Analysis (PA) statements and the REx-PN Test Plan. CNO will be sharing a summary mapping document and the REx-PN test plan in March 2020. Thank you to our Ontario faculty participant for sharing their time and expertise; their contribution was appreciated.

Exam resources

Exam resources were discussed, specifically NCSBN planned resources, including: practice analysis, Test Plan, 'look and feel' exam, and 'what to expect document'. Additional resource updates can be found by reviewing Frequently Asked Questions available on the [CNO](#) (available in French [here](#)) and [NCSBN](#) websites, and on upcoming NCSBN exam bulletins and tutorials.

Next meeting

Friday, February 14, 2020, 11 a.m. – 12 noon.