

Intro:

This info is being presented on behalf of your CNSA representatives who were not able to physically attend every HIH and ProSem class.

We want every nursing student to know about the CNSA and the benefits of membership because of an upcoming referendum. In the past, the School of Health Sciences has paid our yearly membership. However, with the increase of enrolment, they are no longer financially able to do so.

There will be a referendum held in October to have the \$5/student membership included in your tuition each September. Either everyone is a member or no one is a member. It is important for us to maintain our chapter status, because it allows the University of Lethbridge to be represented on a national level.

What is the CNSA and why is it a benefit to maintain our chapter status?

1. CNSA stands for the Canadian Nursing Students' Association
2. The Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) is the national voice of Canadian nursing students. **Our goal is to increase the legal, ethical, professional, and educational aspects which are an integral part of nursing.** CNSA is actively dedicated to the positive promotion of nurses and the nursing profession as a whole.
3. CNSA is a non-profit organization run for students, by students.
4. The CNSA is the only nursing association to represent all levels of nursing students: RN/BN, RPN, LPN/PN
5. We are directly involved with the CNA (Canadian Nurses Association), CASN (College and Association of Schools of Nursing), ICN (International Council of Nurses) and with the ICN founded the ICN International Student Nurses network (http://www.icn.ch/ns/ns_home.htm)
6. Every conference fundraises for a charitable organization through a charity auction.
7. At last year's national conference, we directly impacted the new Code of Ethics coming out in Feb '08 (new appendices on what steps students should take in ethical situations, how RN's are to facilitate student decision-making, students role in pandemics/emergency disasters)
8. In 2005 the CNSA partnered up with WHO and other WHO partners to fight for the eradication of TB.
9. Student advocacy at a local, regional, national and international level.

Benefits of Membership:

Membership services include access to:

The Nursing Portal “[NurseOne](#)” (an online community where nursing students can have access to many organizations, discussions, etc.) This is being trialed and access will be available soon.

(<http://www.nurseone-inf-fusion.ca/splash.html>)

Membership in the [Canadian Nurses Association](#)

The CNSA website has lots of information about the history of CNSA, and resources/links for current health care issues, research and developments in nursing, educational and research opportunities, as well as a link to professional associations.

[Awards and grants](#) that are only available to CNSA members (<http://www.cnsa.ca/awards/>)

Free subscriptions and access to professional materials such as the [Canadian Journal of Nursing Leadership](#) (see package provided)

Attend career development workshops and publications for students in conjunction with [DonnerWheeler](#) at our National Conference each year (www.donnerwheeler.com)

Opportunities to advocate for student issues at local, regional, national and international levels and set policy, along with

Networking opportunities include:

Meeting other nursing students and health professionals at the regional and national conferences (CNSA members get a discount)

Education and professional growth through attendance at the national and regional annual conferences

Ability to network with nursing students, nurses and other health care professionals in both official languages

Student awareness and involvement in relevant political and ethical issues which will impact their future of health care professionals