



MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT ON ACCREDITATION
Between the
Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN/ACÉSI)
and
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
April 2009 – March 2012

Parties to the Agreement:

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) is the national accrediting body for baccalaureate nursing education in Canada. The CASN Accreditation Bureau is the decision-making body for the Canadian, national accreditation process.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is a national accrediting body for baccalaureate and higher degree nursing education in the United States and its territories. The CCNE Board of Commissioners is the decision-making body for the CCNE accreditation process.

The Parties agree that:

Whereas there is a recognized need for national accreditation of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs in order to promote and ensure excellence in and quality of nursing education and graduates, and

Whereas the Canadian Association of Nursing Schools (CASN) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) are recognized as national accrediting bodies for registered nursing education by their respective nursing and academic communities and governments, and

Whereas CASN and CCNE are members in good standing of national organizations of accrediting agencies and adhere to standards/guidelines of good practice, and


Whereas there is considerable commonality of the philosophy, standards, policies and procedures in the accreditation programs of CASN and CCNE, and

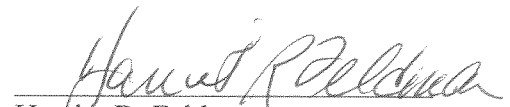
Whereas nothing in this agreement shall be considered as having the effect of repealing, overriding or having power over any decisions of either one Party by the other Party,

Therefore,

1. While acknowledging differences of approach and criteria for accreditation, CASN and CCNE recognize each other's commitment to excellence, and the similarity in the methodology of their respective accreditation programs. In particular, although the forms of accreditation are not interchangeable because of such differences, each party fully recognizes the credibility of the accreditation process of the other.
2. CASN and CCNE shall identify the mutual recognition agreement on their respective web sites and in appropriate publications, and
3. CASN and CCNE agree to maintain mutual information and monitoring exchanges including annual reports on current accreditation status, any substantial changes in their accreditation standards, policies or procedures, and to address issues of mutual concern as they arise, and
4. CASN and CCNE shall invite a representative of each other's organization to attend one meeting each year in order to observe the process and to discuss issues of mutual interest related to accreditation, and
5. CASN and CCNE agree to review the effectiveness, use and continued relevance of this mutual recognition agreement within three years after ratification of this agreement.

Signed this 24 day of April, 2009


Lynnette Leeseberg Stamler
CASN President


Harriet R. Feldman
CCNE Board of Commissioner, Chair


Ellen Rukholm
CASN Executive Director


Jennifer Butlin
CCNE Director


Carroll Iwasiw
CASN Accreditation Bureau, Chair