

Nancy Cupido-Home Care Ontario

From: Cole, Denise (MOHLTC) <Denise.Cole@ontario.ca>
Sent: January-17-18 2:31 PM
To: Cole, Denise (MOHLTC)
Cc: de Braganca, Lorraine (MOHLTC)
Subject: Staffing Announcement - Provincial Chief Nursing Officer

Dear Colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure to announce that **Dr. Michelle Acorn** is the successful candidate in the recent competition for the Provincial Chief Nursing Officer (PCNO) and will begin the role on January 29, 2018.

Dr. Acorn brings to the renewed PCNO role a unique blend of advance nursing practice as an experienced clinician, educator, scholar, transformative and innovative leader, and systems influencer – the kind of breadth and depth vital to the role. She will provide leadership and strategic clinical expertise within the Ministry and across the Ontario Public Service as the technical and clinical advisor on a broad range of issues regarding nursing. She will also co-chair the Joint Provincial Nursing Committee (JPNC) and represent Ontario on the Principal Nursing Advisors Task Force (a committee of the federal/provincial/territorial Committee on Health Workforce).

Dr. Acorn has traversed the nursing path of life-long learning and practice, and has evolved from diploma to doctoral preparation (Doctor of Nursing Practice). She is dually certified as both Primary Health Care and Adult Nurse Practitioner. She has held various clinical roles at Lakeridge Health, led the team that innovated and pioneered the in-patient Nurse Practitioner hospital model of care as Most Responsible Provider from admission to discharge, and was actively involved in implementing Ontario's Nurse Practitioner-Led clinics.

Over the years, Dr. Acorn has forged and sustained diverse, respectful inter-professional, academic, governmental, and organizational relationships across multiple sectors and settings which will be critical to her success in the role of PCNO. She co-chaired the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario's expert panel on the best practice guideline *Delirium, Dementia and Depression in Older Adults: Assessment and Care*, co-chaired the Central East Local Health Integration Network's Health Professions Advisory Council, is a past president of the Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario, was a member of the College of Nurses of Ontario Extended Class Working Group, and was the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Global Health program coordinator at the University of Toronto where she continues as a respected Lecturer. Additionally, through her extensive experience, Dr. Acorn has established strong linkages with the nursing associations in Ontario and across Canada, relationships that will be key as she undertakes the pan-Canadian aspects of her role.

As I have gotten to know Dr. Acorn through the recruitment process, I have seen her sense of humour and she rides a motorcycle!

I would like to thank the members of the interview panel: Assistant Deputy Ministers Suzanne McGurn and Patrick Dicerni, and Carlos Cascallar (Senior Executive Talent Search Consultant Centre for Leadership and Learning) for their participation and support during the selection process.

Please join me in welcoming Dr. Acorn to the Ministry of the Health & Long-Term Care and the Ontario Public Service.

Best,

Denise

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