

UNDERSTANDING THE FUNCTIONS

OF A REGULATOR AND AN ASSOCIATION

The **Health Professions Act** states that the role of a college is to carry out its activities and govern its registrants in a manner that protects and serves the public interest.

REGULATOR

PROTECTING THE PUBLIC

The **College of Registered Nurses of Alberta** (CRNA) exists to protect the public through the following regulatory functions for registered nurses (RN), which also include certified graduate nurses, nurse practitioners, graduate nurses, and graduate nurse practitioners. These regulatory functions include:

- Become a Single Mandate Regulator
- Setting education, registration, and annual renewal requirements
- Setting and enforcing practice, conduct, and ethical standards for delivery of professional services
- Ensuring compliance with healthcare legislation and regulation
- Setting continuing competence requirements
- Investigating concerns regarding questionable conduct of a RNs and other nurse specialties
- Maintaining a public database of registrants who are licensed to practice in the profession
- Providing regulatory focused information and education about the practice of the profession, and expected professional standards, and guidelines that support public safety

ASSOCIATION

ADVOCATING FOR THE PROFESSION

The association advocates on behalf of and promotes the interests of its members. Membership is voluntary and an association is accountable to the members of the association through functions that include:

- Advocating for the interests of the profession to the government, employers, and other healthcare organizations
- Developing and providing education and career opportunities
- Promoting research interests of the profession
- Providing networking opportunities and social activities
- Promoting forming collegial relationships between members of the profession
- Providing recognition and achievement awards

For more information on the **Alberta Association of Nurses** (AAN), which is the new name for the association, visit www.albertanursing.ca or email at info@albertanursing.ca.