

Administering by any means a drug listed in Schedule I or II of the Pharmacists, Pharmacy Operations and Drug Scheduling Act, except (a) administering such drugs by interdermal, epidermal or intramuscular injection, or intravenously, and (b) administering and monitoring initial doses of such drugs for unstable clients or those with unpredictable outcomes.

The BCNU would point out that these limitations reflect the examples given by the practical nurses in their original submissions to the HPC.

### **3) OCCUPATIONAL TITLES**

The HPC has recommended titles that would be unique to LPNs and one title that practical nurses would share with other nursing professions.

#### **3.1) Unique occupational titles**

The BCNU supports the HPC's recommendation that the titles "licensed practical nurse" and "practical nurse" and their corresponding abbreviations be granted to registrants of the College of Licensed Practical Nurses.

#### **3.2) The common title of "nurse"**

The BCNU disagrees with the HPC's recommendation that the title "nurse" be granted to licensed practical nurses and thus shared with registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses.

In 1996, the BCNU commissioned the research company McIntyre and Mustel to undertake a survey of the BC public attitudes toward nurses and health care. One of the issues in that survey was to determine if the public understood there was a difference between RNs and LPNs. On page 25 of their report, McIntyre and Mustel observed: "Nearly all [respondents] realize that RNs have higher qualifications than LPNs; i.e., more education, more training and assume greater responsibility (more authority, make decisions, have a larger role."

If the public understands that there is a difference between the qualifications and skills of RNs and LPNs, then it would be more difficult for the public to distinguish between the two professions if LPNs are allowed to continue to share the same name (i.e. "nurse") as granted to RNs, in the absence of some other information.

The BCNU continues to assert that only registered nurses and registered psychiatric nurses should be allowed to use the title "nurse". At the least, they should be allowed to use this title only when the adjectives "licensed practical" are included.