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ACCREDITATION BULLETIN

MISSION STATEMENT:

AAAC supports and empowers its member organizations in their pursuit of excellence in accreditation practices



CASN In Bangladesh

Submitted by: Joni Boyd

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) is one of four partner organizations working on a project on Human Resources for Health in Bangladesh. The project was funded by Government Affairs Canada (formerly DFATD) and is in the last



year of its five year mandate. The project aims, in part, to improve the quality of nursing education and nurses midwife services in Bangladesh.

CASN's part in the project involves working with the Bangladesh Nursing Council (BNC), the regulatory body for Nursing Institutes (schools) to create, pilot and establish an accreditation program for the Nursing Institutes and to support other regulatory functions of the BNC. Initially in the project, CASN had to take a step back in order to facilitate the development of competencies for nursing and midwifery practice. These were published in a booklet in 2014 by the Bangladesh Nursing Council and titled Entry to Practice Competencies for Nurse-midwives in Bangladesh. Later, accreditation standards for the Nursing Institutes were drafted by a Competency and Accreditation Working Group (ACWG) guided by CASN staff. Standards were then validated in a stakeholder consultation forum in 2014. In 2015, the standards along with other accreditation tools were piloted with two Nursing Institutes. Feedback has been received and the standards and the tools are being fine-tuned for publication. The next step in the process is to conduct the accreditation visits with several schools and to publish all the tools in one accreditation manual.

During the mission in June 2016, consultants visited the Mitford Nursing Institute and hospital to gain awareness of the conditions under which nurse-midwifery education is being conducted (see photograph). While nursing is still perceived to be a low status profession in Bangladesh, enrollments in Nursing Institutes have increased significantly. There has been strain on the Nursing Institutes and especially in the hostels (residences) to accommodate the growth. The accreditation standards are providing educators with a mechanism to advocate for more human and materials resources.



Technology Accreditation Canada Buoyed by Accreditation Successes

Submitted by: Richard Stamper

In the height of the summer season, Technology Accreditation Canada (TAC) is riding a wave of successes.

To date, TAC has received 51 accreditation applications and three of those accreditations have been completed. Eight accreditations are in progress and 40 applications are under review. Worthy of note is that 45 of those 51 accreditation applications are from programs that are currently or were previously accredited.

“We are pleased that accreditation applications are coming in from a breadth of programs - in fact, from 14 different engineering technology and applied science disciplines. And applications are being submitted by educational institutions that boast many accredited programs,” said Richard Stamper, TAC executive director.

Site visits for five programs took place at an Alberta post-secondary educational institution on March 14 and 15 and May 27. With a site visit scheduled for October 20 in British Columbia, TAC accreditations will be conducted within all four provinces of the provincial professional associations (PPAs) by year’s end.

TAC is likewise having great results in expanding its auditor pool. Following a call for volunteers, more than 190 PPA members have forwarded their résumés.

Incorporated in 2013, TAC accredits engineering technology and applied science programs at post-secondary educational institutions. A national leader in the delivery of improved, efficient and effective national accreditation, TAC uses trained, specialized auditors, maintains an uncompromising degree of quality control and assurance, and rigorously applies national technology standards.

For more information about TAC, please visit technologyaccreditation.ca.



Accreditation with Commendation for the Saskatchewan Cancer Agency

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Our first four Best Practice Guidelines are:

- 1: An accreditation process incorporates the principles of quality assurance and continuous improvement, which is transparent, fair and objective, and respects confidentiality.
- 2: The purpose of the accreditation process is to evaluate the quality of academic programs and to promote their continuing improvement.
- 3: The accreditation agency is autonomous from the educational program under accreditation review.
- 4: The accreditation agency has representatives, and/or appointees, from relevant stakeholders.