

Letter of Agreement between NaHSSA and CIHC

The parties to this letter of agreement are:

The National Health Science Students Association (NaHSSA) is the first and only national interprofessional student association in the world. As a diverse network of university and college-based chapters, NaHSSA seeks to address the unmet need of actively involving Canada's health and human service students in interprofessional education while promoting the attitudes, skills, and behaviours necessary to provide collaborative patient-centred care.

and

The Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC) is a pan-Canadian collaborative of partners advancing the evidence base related to Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient-Centred Practice (IECPCP) toward improved health education, improved health services, and improved health for Canadians. CIHC is focused is on building a representative Collaborative, identifying and sharing best practices in interprofessional education and collaborative practice, and translating this knowledge to people who can use it to transform healthcare.

By signing this letter, NaHSSA and CIHC indicate their desire to work together to further their mutual interest in supporting and promoting interprofessional education for collaborative patient-centred practice. This partnership aims to leverage the talents and comparative advantages of each association through collaboration in the following areas of mutual interest:

- Promoting and demonstrating the benefits of interprofessional education for collaborative patient-centred practice (NaHSSA Objective #1, CIHC Aim#1)
- Facilitating and potentiating opportunities for interprofessional interaction among Canada's health and human service students (NaHSSA Objective #2)
- Fostering student champions to lead interprofessional efforts now and in the future (NaHSSA Objective #3)
- Stimulating networking and the sharing of the best approaches to interprofessional education for collaborative patient-centred practice (CIHC Aim #2)
- Facilitating interprofessional collaboration in both education and practice (CIHC Aim #3)
- Articulating and facilitating a research agenda for interprofessional education for collaborative patient-centred practice (CIHC Aim #4)
- Facilitating knowledge translation into the appropriate receptor communities (CIHC Aim #5)
- Facilitating and supporting sustainable change in IECPCP (CIHC Aim #6)
- Fostering, supporting and developing IECPCP in new and creative ways (CIHC Aim #7)

To facilitate collaboration and the exchange of information between the two organizations, each will assign representation to the other. NaHSSA will allocate one position on its Board of Directors to a representative of the CIHC Steering Committee, and the CIHC will allocate one position on its Steering Committee to a representative of NaHSSA. Each organization shall choose their own representative for the other organization's governing body, although it is expected that the representatives should be the Chair / President or their designates. CIHC will also include NaHSSA representatives on each of its standing committees.

The two parties recognize the potential for interaction and collaboration between local chapters of NaHSSA and local interprofessional education projects associated with CIHC, and encourage such collaboration where it is to the mutual benefit of both parties. NaHSSA will make every effort to link its local chapters with appropriate Faculty Advisors, and CIHC will make every effort to help identify such appropriate Faculty Advisors and facilitate this process.

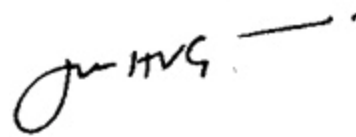
Moreover the two parties agree to each promote the others activities to their members where this furthers the mutual interests outlined above. Such promotional activities may include participation at each other's meetings and collaborating on the development of newsletters, policy documents, internet forums, databases and other means of communication and information exchange.

While NaHSSA and CIHC recognize the importance of this collaboration, both organizations shall remain independent legal identities and neither organization shall control the other.

The terms of this letter shall be reviewed annually by each party and may be terminated with one months notice by either party.



Alexandra Harris
NaHSSA President



John Gilbert
CIHC Project Lead