VITALISIGNS

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BERMUDA HOSTS THE REGIONAL NURSING BODY

Bermuda hosted the Regional Nursing Body (RNB) of the CARICOM Caribbean Community for the 46th Joint Meeting of the Executive and Education Committees and 15th Meeting of the Practice Committee from the 27th February to the 1st March 2018.

The RNB is the policy making body for Nursing in the CARICOM. There are 15 member states and five associate members, of which Bermuda is one. The aim of the RNB is to provide advisory services to the Conference

BERMUDA HEALTH WORKFORCE, 2017

Bermuda Health Workforce, 2017 is a situational analysis of the current health workforce in Bermuda. The Chief Medical Officer and advisors from the Pan American Health Organization consulted with a multidisciplinary team of health care professionals to provide an overview of the current state of affairs.

Among the challenges facing Bermuda and the rest of the world are the provision of appropriate human resources to address the specific health requirements of the 21st century. As the population ages, a greater proportion of elderly dependents will need to be supported by the working population.

of Ministers responsible for the Health of the Caribbean Community in matters relating to the improvement of nursing and its contributions to health care in the region. **Delegates represent Chief Nursing Officers** from over 16 Caribbean countries, University of the West Indies, University of Belize, Caribbean Regional Midwives Association, Caribbean Examination Centre, Caribbean Nurses Organization and the CARICOM Secretariat. Topics discussed at the February meeting included mental health in disaster areas, the framework for nurses and midwives and any updates to the registration of midwives.

The purpose of the publication is to provide context for its companion document, Human Resources for Health Strategic Plan, Bermuda 2018-2020. It is the first step of a much bigger plan to address the healthcare workforce needs for Bermuda and it aligns closely with Bermuda's Health Strategy, where workforce planning is a strategic priority. In order to meet the needs of the future, workforce planning must promote and invest in education, health system reform, a multi-disciplinary approach, professionals with skillsets to address need for chronic disease prevention and control, and a systemwide electronic health record to improve monitoring and data collection. Find out more at: www.gov.bm/reports.

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

The WHO has raised an alarm regarding the threat of resistance to antibiotics, and all countries are asked to create and implement strategic plans to tackle the problem. The office of the Chief Medical Officer is spearheading the project to develop Bermuda's National Action Plan on Anti-microbial Resistance with the assistance of stakeholders.

MOH ROADMAP, 2018-2022

Do you want to know what we've been up to? Check out the Ministry of Health Roadmap to see how our budget is spent. The MOH Roadmap is updated regularly to reflect what has been accomplished and where we are headed. Find it at www.gov.bm/reports.

PUBLIC HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

The Ministry of Health is now accepting applications for the Dr. Barbara Ball Public Health Scholarship, awarded to students seeking careers or professional development in public health. Dr. Barbara Bertha Ball, an advocate for people's rights, was the first Bermudian woman to practice medicine in Bermuda. The scholarship is offered to students studying in a range of healthcare areas with a focus on public health. Applicants must be Bermudian, demonstrate academic achievement and financial need, and submit a letter outlining the reason they chose their field of study, how the scholarship will assist with achieving their goals and contribute to improving public health in Bermuda. The deadline is 30th April 2018. For more details go to: www.gov. bm/barbara-ball-scholarship.

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