

Dear XXX:

Consultation: Bill 18 Health Authorities Amendment Act, 2013

The *Health Authorities Act* establishes statutory bargaining units in the health sector including a nurses bargaining unit, a facilities subsector bargaining unit and a communities subsector bargaining unit. Currently, the nurses bargaining unit is limited to Registered Nurses and Registered Psychiatric Nurses.

Following Labour Relations Board decisions certifying the BC Nurses' Union as the bargaining agent for a majority of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) in the Facilities Bargaining Association, the *Health Authorities Amendment Act, 2013* (Bill 18) was recently introduced to the Legislature. Bill 18 involves amendments that would allow for the definition of nurse to be broadened to include Licensed LPNs and include LPNs in the Nurses Bargaining Association. Once enacted, the legislation would not come into force until a regulation is approved by the Lieutenant Governor in council.

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