



# APRN **ROUNDTABLE**

Making an Impact on  
**APRN Regulation:**  
Every Moment Matters

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 | Virtual





# Canada's Future Model of NP Regulation

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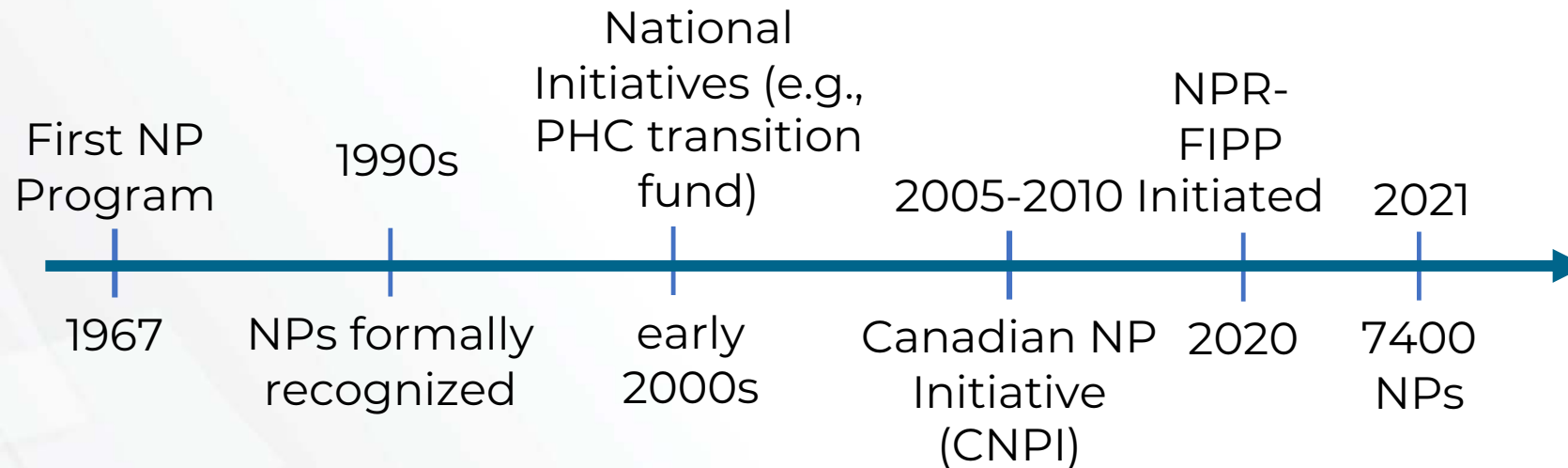
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2024 APRN **ROUNDTABLE**

# Highlights

- Overview of the NP profession in Canada
- A new regulatory model for NPs in Canada
- Engaging key partners
- NPR-FIPP project deliverables
- Next steps for the project

# Overview of NP profession in Canada - History





# Overview of NP profession in Canada – Current stats

- 8,000 NPs currently work across the country (2023); with approx. 310,000 RNs
- NPs are licensed as Family All Ages, (older PHC), Adult, and Pediatric/Neonatal
- 29 schools across Canada offered one or more NP programs
  - 717 NP graduates in 2021 (CASN)
- Annually numbers grow by about 10% per year
- NPs work across all areas of healthcare, many in primary care or in a community setting (37%), but also in acute or hospital settings (35%)

# Overview of NP profession in Canada – Regulation

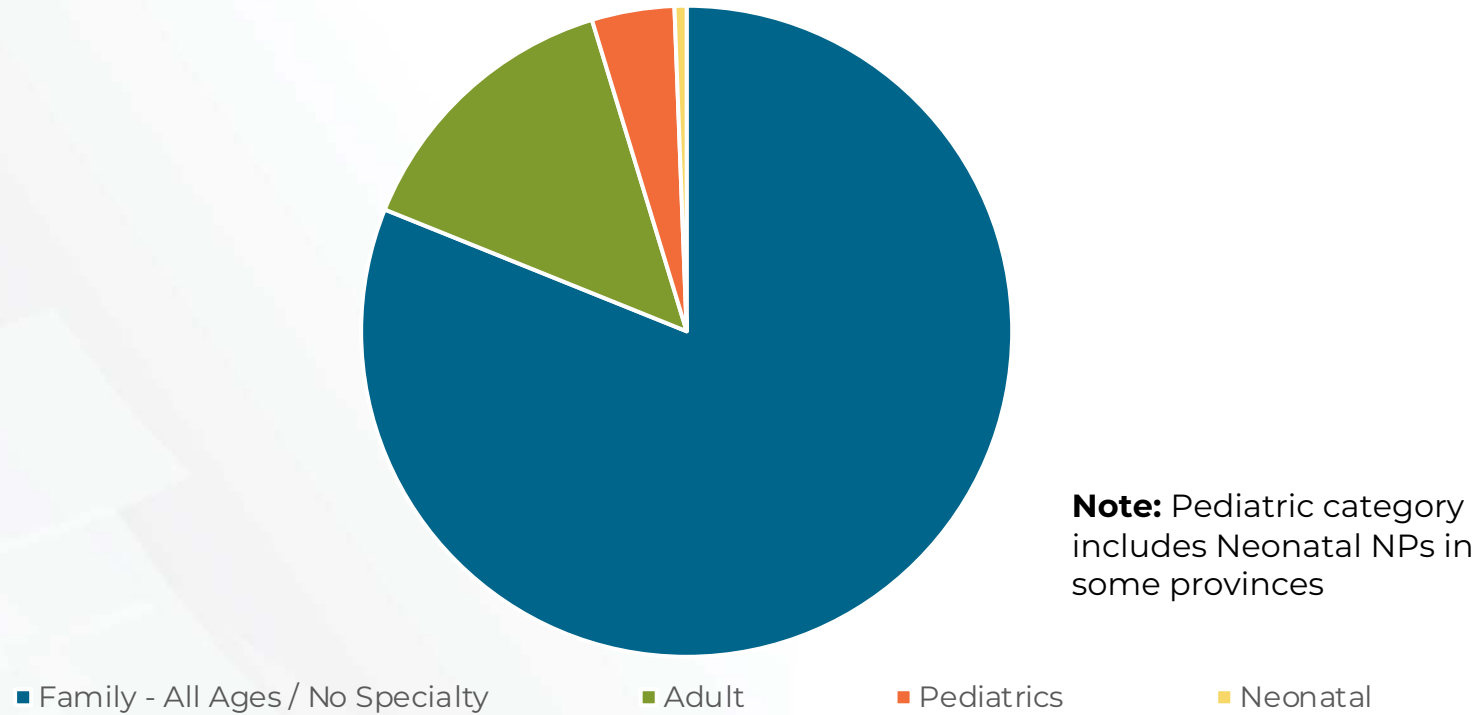
- 12 regulatory jurisdictions representing provinces and territories
- NPs regulated by provincial or territorial legislation
- Canadian Council Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNR)
  - committed to safe nursing across Canada and working together toward consistency and harmonization in nursing regulation for the Canadian public
  - establish liaisons and partnerships that best position CCRNR and its members to address registered nurse regulatory matters
  - promotes an understanding of the purpose of nursing regulation and members' commitment to public safety and excellence in regulation

# Overview of NP profession in Canada - Regulation

- Regulatory challenges with NP practice
  - Limited diversity of NP roles and skills to meet evolving population needs
  - Smaller number of NPs in some categories
  - Difficulty maintaining category-specific education programs
  - Lack of robust, reliable, and valid exam for all categories of practice
  - Limits to labor mobility across the country

# Current NP licensure requirements

NPs by categories / streams of practice





# New NP Regulatory Model

- Impetus for a new model
  - 2015 Practice analysis
  - Set the stage for a national conversation for a new model

# New NP Regulatory Model

- Nurse Practitioner Regulation Framework Implementation Plan (NPR-FIPP)
- NPs across Canada will:
  - be educated based on common NP entry-level competencies (NP ELCs)
  - take a common NP entry-level registration exam, and
  - be ready to provide care across the life span in all practice settings as beginning practitioners
  - use one consistent protected title

# New NP Regulatory Model

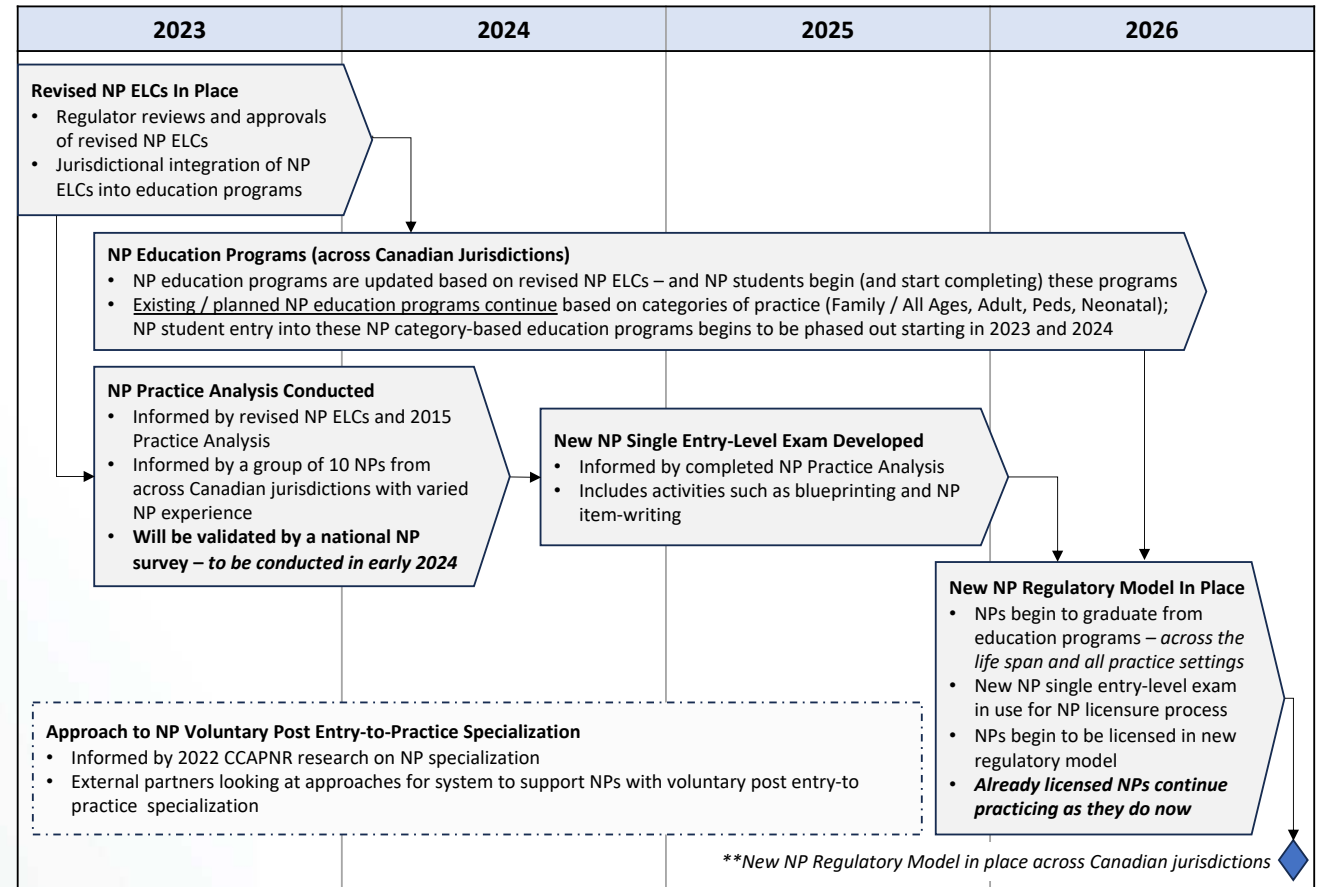
- Enable the appropriate level of NP regulation in the public's interest
- Regulators:
  - will no longer regulate different categories of NP practice
  - will require NPs to practice within their individual competence and regulated scope of practice
- NPs will continue to develop knowledge and expertise over time and, if desired, additional, voluntary, post-entry-to-practice specialization
- Foster a more mobile and responsive NP workforce

# Engaging Key Partners

- NPs
- International regulators and partners
- NPR-FIPP Advisory Panel
- National Task Force on Specialization
- Faculty and Schools of Nursing
- Employers

# NP Project Deliverables

- National Entry-Level Competencies for NPs (NP ELCs)
- NP education programs based on ELCs
- NP practice analysis
- One NP entry level registration exam by 2026
- Legacy planning





# Legacy Planning

- NPR-FIPP working group to determine legacy plan
  - Possible two legacy plan options
  - Possible attestation when changing category/stream of practice
- Challenge to determine how the new model will impact currently licensed NPs
  - Causing current NPs to be uncomfortable

# Next Steps

- Practice Analysis report
- NP exam development
- Healthcare partners exploring NP voluntary post entry-to-practice specialization based on research by Canadian Centre for Advanced Practice Nursing Research (CCAPNR)
- Other projects: CCP/QA processes, Standards of Practice
- Communication!! Communication !! Communication !!

# NPR-FIPP Resources

- CCRNR website: <https://www.ccrnr.ca/>
  - NPR-FIPP
  - Project updates
  - Subscription to project newsletter
  - NP ELCs
  - Practice Analysis 2015