

National Nursing Week

May 12 - 18 • 2008

Think
you
know
nursing?

Take a
closer
look...

So you
think you
know
nursing?

National Nursing Week
2008 is May 12-18

National Nursing Week is an opportunity to celebrate a profession that makes enormous contributions to our health system and to the lives of Canadians every day.

The celebrations honoring Canadian nurses begin on May 12 across the country.

This year's theme is "Think you know nursing? Take a closer look." The theme challenges Canadians to re-examine their perceptions of the nursing profession. It invites Canadians to take a closer look at the varied roles that nurses play and how nurses are contributing to strengthening our health system.

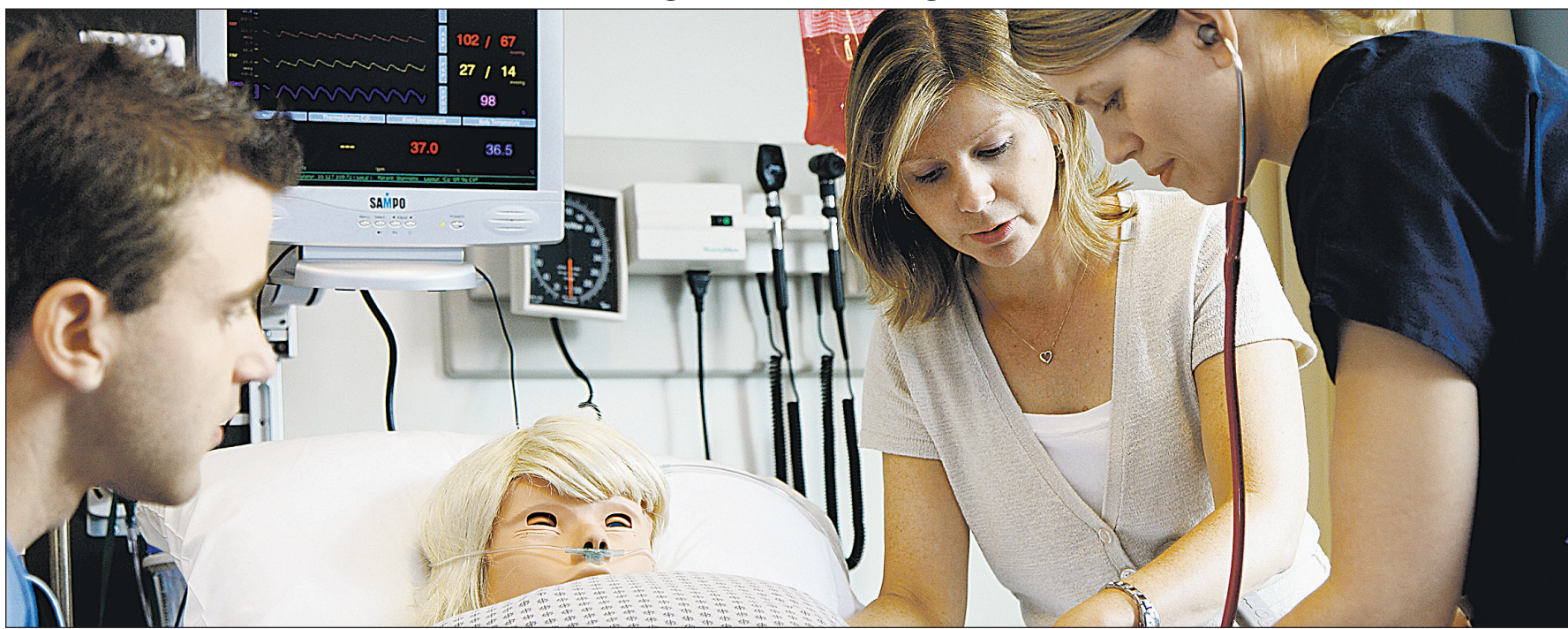
"On the occasion of National Nursing Week, I would like to salute the accomplishments of nurses," says Marlene Smadu, RN, president of the Canadian Nurses Association. "As nurses, we have a long and rich history of pioneering patient care, influencing societal change, leading research, and providing advocacy on behalf of our patients, as well as collaborating with other professionals. As I travel across this country, I see how nurses continue to be pioneers and I invite you to take a closer look at nursing as well."

Nurses are a vital component of our health system and are active in our communities. Nurses are in our hospitals and in our schools. Nurses lead research and international development initiatives. Nurses have a strong presence in Canada's military.

Nurses are catalysts for finding solutions to improve access to health services. Nursing and other health disciplines are committed to bringing in new approaches and new models of care, giving increased attention to health promotion and illness prevention.

Nurses are leaders, innovators and pioneers in all areas of the economy from research, education, clinical and administration to the military, technology and advocacy. They are improving the health of Canadians by charting a course for a stronger and more vibrant health system for all.

— High-tech nursing —



Nurses training with a computerized simulation mannequin. Please see Simulation / F5.

Photo - Courtesy University of Windsor

Award honours nursing excellence

Lois A. Fairley Community Service award

Lois Fairley cared about patients first and foremost. So it is appropriate that an award in her name will honour nurses or colleagues who show great care for their patients.

The Lois A. Fairley Community Service First Annual Award will recognize a Windsor-Essex nurse who has demonstrated a commitment to serving the community through excellence in delivering patient care.

Nominations required a 500-word story about how a nurse or colleague cares for patients. Callers were invited to tell their stories about how nurses impacted their lives on local radio. The award presentation will take place on Friday, May 16th, 2008. Nominees



Lois A. Fairley

must have proven themselves to be advocates for patients and the nursing profession, be committed to the service of patients, and be committed to the community of coworkers and where the nurse is employed.

John Fairley talks fondly of his mother, who died in 2007. A nurse who dedicated 38 years of her life to the service of others, Lois Fairley "loved the nursing profession," says her son.

"She also appreciated the role that nurses play in the hospital, community health, home care and long-term care settings. She loved to encourage nurses in their work - whether it was staff working with her or through the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) or the Ontario Nurses Asso-

ciation (ONA). She especially valued the opportunity to motivate and mentor student nurses from The University of Windsor and St. Clair College."

John says that the award seemed a great way to keep encouraging nurses as well as promoting excellence in patient care. "That would be an important expression in honour of Mom as a nurse."

With that in mind, he responded enthusiastically when approached by Lynda Monik for a partnership in a nursing community award proposal with the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario. "Since Mom had served on the Board of Directors RNAO, we felt this was the right fit."

Registered Nurse Lois Fairley was a graduate of Grace Hospital in Windsor in 1955, where she served until her retirement in 1993. She worked in a number of departments in the hospital, serving as a head nurse and mentor to students in the nursing programs.

PLEASE SEE **AWARD / F2**