



BRIAN BOWMAN
MAYOR • MAIRE

November 12, 2020

Ms. Carol Legare, RN, Chair, and Ms. Katherine Stansfield, RN, CEO/Registrar
College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba
890 Pembina Highway
Winnipeg MB R3M 2M8

Ms. Cheryl Geisel, LPN, President, and
Ms. Jennifer Breton, LPN, RN, BN, Executive Director
College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Manitoba
463 St. Anne's Road
Winnipeg MB R2M 3C9

Dear Ms. Legare, Ms. Geisel, Ms. Stansfield, and Ms. Breton:

I am sure there is no Winnipegger who has not been borne up in times of trouble, by the compassion, skill, and strength of a member of the nursing profession. At every crucial moment in life – from the birth of a beloved child, to recovery from illness or injury, to care for an aging parent – nurses are always, **always**, there for us. Now, in a dark and difficult time for all of us, I want to express my deepest gratitude to the nurses of Manitoba, and to let you know: our hearts are with you.

This COVID-19 crisis is challenging every institution, every organization, and every family in our community, and you are very much on the front lines. I am in awe of the professionalism and courage that nurses have shown from the very beginning of this pandemic, and I know that your work has gotten much, much, tougher. When Winnipeggers hear about the difficulties you are facing in your daily work, and the risks you are taking on our behalf in terms of your own personal health, I know we feel a deep sense of solidarity and concern for you.

I would like your members to know that, every opportunity I have, I will keep echoing the message of prevention our health-care professionals are sending – urging people to stay home whenever possible, wash hands, wear a mask and watch their distance. We will keep sharing these messages with Winnipeggers, and providing all the latest information about the City's efforts to fight COVID-19 – including timely notification of potential exposures on Transit – on our City of Winnipeg EmergWeb, at <https://www.winnipeg.ca/emergweb/covid-19/default.stm>.

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**Ms. Carol Legare, RN, Ms. Katherine Stansfield, RN
Ms. Cheryl Geisel, LPN, and Ms. Jennifer Breton, LPN, RN, BN
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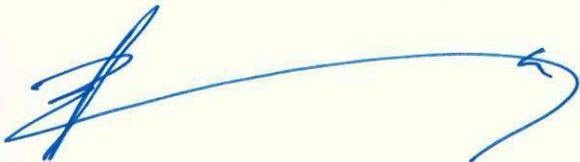
As I have said publicly, in this crisis I believe it is essential for all levels of government to learn more, and learn fast. It is my earnest hope that we will all approach the pandemic response as we did the Flood of the Century in 1997, with all hands-on deck, all options on the table, and all partners ready to listen and learn from one another. Manitoba's nurses – and all our health-care professionals – clearly have a strategic role to play in these discussions.

On a very personal level, I would like to say “thank you” to each and every one of your members, the nurses of Manitoba. Most of us cannot imagine the worry, the stress, and the exhaustion nurses are facing, in the struggle to care for us and keep us safe. But we can offer our gratitude, and (even more) our commitment, as individuals, families, and organizations, to follow public health orders and reduce risk in any way we can.

You, our nurses, are always with us, at every stage of life, and in every moment of need. We appreciate your kindness, your caring, and your many sacrifices on our behalf. And we appreciate the invaluable knowledge and experience you bring to our community's public health efforts: in particular, our response to this pandemic.

Thank you so much for all you do. We wish you renewal and replenishment of those virtues for which we already admire you so much: your strength, your skill, and your courage. As you help and heal others, may you and your families continue to be preserved in good health always – and may we all see brighter days, soon.

Meegwetch, merci, and thank you,



Brian Bowman, B.A. (Adv.), J.D., CPA (Hon.), CGA (Hon.)
Mayor
The City of Winnipeg