



**MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT ON ACCREDITATION**  
**Between**  
**Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN/ACÉSI)**  
**and**  
**Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)**

**Parties to the Agreement:**

The Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) is the national accrediting body for baccalaureate nursing education in Canada. The CASN Accreditation Bureau is the decision-making body for the Canadian, national accreditation process.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) is a national accrediting body for baccalaureate and graduate level nursing education and entry-to-practice nurse residency programs in the United States and its territories. The CCNE Board of Commissioners is the decision-making body for the CCNE accreditation process.

**The Parties agree that:**

Whereas there is a recognized need for national accreditation of baccalaureate and graduate nursing education programs in order to promote and ensure excellence in and quality of nursing education and graduates, and

Whereas the Canadian Association of Nursing Schools (CASN) and the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) are recognized as national accrediting bodies for nursing education programs by their respective nursing and academic communities and governments, and

Whereas CASN and CCNE are members in good standing of national organizations of accrediting agencies and adhere to standards/guidelines of good practice, and

Whereas there is considerable commonality of the philosophy, standards, policies and procedures in the accreditation programs of CASN and CCNE, and

Whereas nothing in this agreement shall be considered as having the effect of repealing, overriding or having power over any decisions of either one Party by the other Party,

Therefore,

1. While acknowledging differences of approach and standards for accreditation, CASN and CCNE recognize each other's commitment to excellence, and the similarity in the methodology of their respective accreditation programs. In particular, although the forms of accreditation are not interchangeable because of such differences, each party fully recognizes the credibility of the accreditation standards, policies and procedures, and processes of the other.
2. CASN and CCNE shall identify the mutual recognition agreement on their respective websites and in appropriate publications, and
3. CASN and CCNE agree to exchange appropriate and relevant information, including annual reports and substantive revisions to major documents (e.g., standards and procedures); and to address issues of mutual concern as they arise, and
4. CASN and CCNE shall periodically invite a representative of each other's organization to attend a meeting or other activity in order to observe the process and/or to discuss issues of mutual interest related to accreditation, and
5. CASN and CCNE agree to review the effectiveness, use, and continued relevance of this mutual recognition agreement every three years, or as needed, after ratification of this agreement.

Signed on September 15, 2017.



Cynthia Baker  
CASN Executive Director



Susan D. Ruppert  
CCNE Board of Commissioners, Chair



Jennifer Butlin  
CCNE Executive Director