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*The Globe and Mail*  
444 Front St W  
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Transmitted by email: [letters@globeandmail.com](mailto:letters@globeandmail.com)

Dear Editor:

**Re: "Harmonizing nurse education with U.S. hurts Canada's edge: association", Adriana Barton, *The Globe and Mail*, May 12, 2016**

As President of Canada's national registered nurse (RN) regulator group, I am mystified by CASN executives' ongoing and aggressive campaign to misinform the public and discredit the public safety efforts of Canada's nurse regulators.

Cynthia Baker's remarks are alarmist and wrongly portray the work of nurse regulators and the purpose of the national RN exam (known as the NCLEX-RN). Regulators are not harmonizing Canadian and U.S. nursing education, and the RN exam does not contain American content.

Unfortunately, what is missing from the article is a basic understanding of the difference between the role of such organizations as the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) and the role of Canada's nurse regulators. Also missing is the fact that by the end of 2015, 84% of graduates from a Canadian nursing program had passed the NCLEX-RN.

Canada's nurse regulators collaborate with our national and global counterparts in order to share experiences and best practices that may improve the public's safety. Our involvement in such collaboration is not an attempt to change to an American system of nursing or nursing education. In fact, the world is seeking Canada's expertise in nursing matters that impact regulation and public safety.

I am concerned about the damage CASN's persistent misinformation is doing to the reputation of Canada's nursing education community. Canada's regulators have built strong ties with individual educators across the country, and are proud of the quality and reputation of this country's nurses.

Canada's nurse regulators have only one motivation – to protect the public interest.

Sincerely,

Anne L. Coghlan, RN, MScN  
President, Canadian Council of Registered Nurse Regulators (CCRNR)

cc. CCRNR Board of Directors