**ADVANCING EQUITY, JUSTICE, AND BELONGING IN CANADIAN NEUROSCIENCE NURSING: EMBEDDING CULTURAL SENSITIVITY AND INCLUSIVITY IN PRACTICE**

**Robertson T \*,** Bourgoin A\*\*, Kamensek J, Krassman C, Ramsey S , Crasto G , Wajid A

\*Fraser Health, Surrey, British Columbia, Canada

\*\*Kemptville District Hospital Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

The Canadian Association of Neuroscience Nurses (CANN) Equity, Justice, and Belonging (EJB) committee is dedicated to informing, promoting, and advancing neuroscience nursing practices rooted in the core values of equity, justice, and belonging. This presentation will detail the committee’s inception, its guiding principles, and strategic initiatives aimed at aligning with neuroscience nursing knowledge and practices with Canadian anti-racism and Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action (Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canda, 2015).

Established to drive systemic change, the EJB committee strives to embed principles of equity and cultural sensitivity and inclusivity within CANN governance, communication, and activities. It advocates for addressing both long-standing and emerging inequities related to race, gender, sexuality, socioeconomic status, and other structural barriers within neuroscience nursing.

With the guidance of this committee, neuroscience nurses will be equipped to integrate actionable strategies such as cultural humility, implicit bias awareness, and anti-oppressive practices into their clinical care. The committee's initiatives align with key national frameworks, including the Nursing Declaration Against Anti-Indigenous Racism and recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, to foster culturally safe and inclusive care environments.

By cultivating strategic partnerships and fostering collaboration with CANN members, the EJB committee aims to shape governance, sustainability, and policy recommendations that ensure equity, justice and belonging remain cornerstones of the future of neuroscience nursing in Canada.

**REFERENCES**

Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. 2015. Honouring the truth, reconciling for the future: Summary of the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. Government of Canada. Available from: <https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2015/trc/IR4-9-5-2015-eng.pdf>