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NEWS RELEASE

“Second Wave of Philippine Nurses Arrive in Prairie North”

Prairie North Health Region is excited to announce arrival of its second contingent of Philippine registered nurses.

Ten Philippine RNs arrived in PNHR this week. They were welcomed by Prairie North officials and staff, members of the local Filipino community in the Region, and by several of the nine Philippine nurses who preceded the new recruits to PNHR last fall.

The 10 newest nurses for PNHR begin their orientation to the health region and the Saskatchewan health system on Monday, February 2. Following approximately three weeks of orientation, they'll be introduced and orientated to their individual work sites. Six of the 10 registered nurses will assume work placements in acute care, long-term care, and mental health care in The Battlefords; two will work in acute care in Lloydminster; and two will work in long-term care in Meadow Lake.

“Prairie North Health Region is thrilled to welcome our second group of Philippine nurses,” said CEO David Fan. He expressed appreciation to the international recruits for choosing Prairie North Health Region, Saskatchewan and Canada, acknowledging their difficult decision to leave their loved ones, families, friends and their homeland to pursue their career in PNHR.

“We want you to be successful here and hope you make a life in our community,” Fan stated. “Our job is to help you adjust to your new work and life in Canada as best we can, by providing orientation, mentoring, and support.”

Prairie North has been eagerly awaiting arrival of the second wave of RNs from the Philippines. The first group of nine arrived in September 2008 and is settling well into their individual workplaces and communities. Seven are living in The Battlefords and working in acute care, long-term care, and mental health care. Two are working in acute care in Lloydminster. PNHR continues to work with these nurses as they prepare to write their Canadian Nursing Exam in the near future.

Fan expressed appreciation to PNHR staff, physicians and residents for opening their arms and hearts to the Philippine nurses, supporting them in their transition to a new work life and home environment. “I have no doubt that support and encouragement will continue with all 19 of our international recruits who have journeyed such a long way to be part of our community,” added Fan.

PNHR also expressed appreciation to the local Filipino communities for their support in helping the nurses settle into their new environment. “The health region could not have achieved the success we have so far with our Philippine nurses without the welcome, warmth, guidance, and support of the local Filipino communities in The Battlefords and Lloydminster,” said Fan.

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