Hello CANN membership,

In recognition of Florence Nightingale’s 200 birthday, the World Health Organization (WHO) has designated 2020 as "the Year of the Nurse and Midwife".

Nurses and midwives play a vital role in providing health services. We are the people who devote our careers and lives to caring for people and generally meeting everyday essential health needs. We are often, the first and only point of care in people’s communities. Quite simply, the world will only achieve universal health coverage by recognizing the critical role nurses and nurse midwives play in healthcare.

WHO has designated 2020, the bicentenary of the birth of the founder of modern nursing, Florence Nightingale, *The Year of the Nurse and the Midwife* (YONM). Working closely with key partners including, the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), International Council of Nurses (ICN), Nursing Now and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the year of the nurse and midwife:

- Celebrates the contributions of health workers, with particular focus on nurses and midwives, in improving health globally,
- acknowledges, appreciates and addresses the challenging conditions nurses and midwives face while providing care where it’s needed most and
- advocating for increased investments in the nursing and midwifery workforce

The year-long global focus on nurses and midwives —is a unique opportunity for our association to celebrate neuroscience nursing.

For more information of the global plans, browse the hyperlink below:

https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2020/01/01/default-calendar/2020---year-of-the-nurse-and-the-midwife

Stay tuned for more conversations ahead.

Trudy, CANN VP