

MEMBERS' VOICES: April – August 2014

Speaking out for nursing - Speaking out for health

SUBMITTED BY: Paul-André Gauthier & Elisabeth Jensen
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END: Engage with registered nurses to stimulate membership and promote the value of belonging to their professional organization.

- CNS Association of Ontario Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on Saturday, May 3rd. We have a new executive member: Kadeen Briscoe – MScN-CNS Nursing Student Representative.
- Nursing Student Awards were given to CNS-MN Student studying in Ontario. They received a certificate, a key chain, and we added them to the list of members:
 - York University recipient – Kadeen Briscoe, RN
 - University Western Ontario recipient – Jeff Reed, RN
 - Ottawa University recipient – Mary Ann Laplante, RN
- **CNS Educational Awards** (changes): we are going to post applications for Educational Awards in the September's Newsletter. Deadline will be December 15th, 2014 and selection in January 2015. It was shared and agreed by the group that it would provide the recipients with more time to attend and then submit the expenses related to the \$1,000 award (for ex. CNS-Tuition fee, or CNS conference).
- Members can find information about CNS on our Facebook and Website and they are invited to contribute.
 - Our website is being updated. <http://cns-ontario.rnao.ca/>
 - Our facebook is being updated. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Clinical-Nurse-Specialists-Association-of-Ontario-Canada/113210988761198?fref=ts>
- We have maintained a minimum of 250 members (RNs) over the past years. We do not have any undergrad nursing students. For ex.
 - For Oct. 31, 2011 : 250 RNs
 - For Oct. 31, 2012 : 251 RNs
 - For Oct. 31, 2013 : 262 RNs
 - For Oct. 31, 2014 :
 - Feb. 2014: 269 RNs.
 - July 2014: 289 RNs + 3 award recipients– (292). These numbers show that our Association is **growing**.
 - Oct. 2014...
 - Also, it means that we have enough members to receive a **group discount** by RNAO. We are currently pursuing this with the staff at RNAO and hope to have it in place shortly.
- **Canadian Nurses Association** published the **competencies** of clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) in June 2014. There were consultations leading to the final versions of these documents.
 - <http://cna-aicc.ca/en/news-room/news-releases/2014/canadian-nurses-association-launches-core-competencies-for-clinical-nurse-specialists> (EN)
 - <http://cna-aicc.ca/fr/salle-des-nouvelles/communiqués-de-presse/2014/lassociation-des-infirmières-et-infirmiers-du-canada-lance-les-compétences-nationales-de-base-de-linfirmière-et-de-linfirmier-clinicien-spécialisé> (FR)
 - **Competencies** : (EN) http://cna-aicc.ca/~media/cna/files/en/clinical_nurse_specialists_convention_handout_e.pdf

GOOD NEWS !!!

- http://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/files/en/clinical_nurse_specialist_role_roundtable_summary_e.pdf
- http://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/files/en/strengthening_the_cns_role_background_paper_e.pdf
- **Compétences** : http://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/files/fr/clinical_nurse_specialists_convention_handout_f.pdf
- http://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/files/fr/clinical_nurse_specialist_role_roundtable_summary_f.pdf
- http://cna-aiic.ca/~media/cna/files/fr/strengthening_the_cns_role_background_paper_f.pdf
- **Other info** :
 - <http://canadian-nurse.com/en/articles/issues/2012/june-2012/who-is-the-clinical-nurse-specialist>
 - <http://canadian-nurse.com/fr/articles/issues/2012/juin-2012/qui-sont-les-infirmieres-et-infirmiers-specialises>
- In Ontario and in Canada, for future CNS graduates, they must have a Master in Nursing including a **minimum of 500 hours** with an advanced clinical expertise in one area of nursing.
- Furthermore, on August 18th, Paul-André met with the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Nursing of the Université de Montréal, Dr. Chantal Cara, to discuss the MN-CNS stream. The FON has a requirement for 540 hours for the clinical specialisation, meeting the national number that we are discussing and that is required not only in Canada but in the USA also.
- E-mails are sent to members via e-mails and facebook messages.

END: RNAO advances the role and image of nurses as members of a vital, knowledge-driven, caring profession, and as significant contributors to health.

- Paul-André is writing to the newspapers and responding to articles or messages on **facebook** and **LinkedIn** that related to nursing, health, and CNS. He also adds regularly comments on the Facebook of Radio-Canada (radio) for the North and Toronto, and television (SRC-Ontario).
- **Interventions in the media:** Paul-André has conducted interviews, as follows:
 - On May 14 with SRC-Toronto regarding nursing week regarding various nursing issues;
 - He did 3 live interviews in French on Wed. July 9. Topics: the stats from CIHI, discussing the concerns regarding the numbers, shortage of RNs and nurses getting older (60 y.o. and more... - the number is increasing), the continuity of care, NP, and CNS, etc.
 - at 07:40 with SRC-Toronto (radio) "Y pas deux matins pareil"
 - at 08:40 with SRC-Windsor (radio) "Matins sans frontière"
 - at 08:53 with SRC-Sudbury - CBON (radio) "Le matin du nord"
 - He did an interview with the Sudbury Star with Carol Mulligan published on Saturday, July 5th on medical tourism and blood plasma.
 - On August 21st, following a consultation by the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM), he discussed the need to focus on the education of physicians and balance the diversification of programs. Interview with SRC-radio provincial (on the air August 21-22). During that the consultation, he indicated to the Deans of NOSM that nowhere in the background papers the word "nurse" appears, but the word "collaboration" is seen more than 25 times. Nurses are the health care professionals that physicians will work with the majority of the time.

END: RNAO speaks out on emerging issues that impact on nurses and the nursing profession, health and health care.

- The CNS Association has been promoting the revitalization of the Clinical Nurse Specialist in Ontario.
 - **Our association has the greatest number** of CNS in Canada.
 - We continue to inform politicians and CNO / CEO regarding the need to have more CNS in health-care institutions to improve nursing and health outcomes and to decrease lengths of stay. The evidence is showing that the contribution of CNS makes a difference in patient care but also in lowering costs, e.g. by decreasing the hospital stay and preventing re-admissions. Please consult the *Clinical Nurse Specialist: The Journal for Advanced Nursing Practice* : <http://journals.lww.com/cns-journal/pages/default.aspx>
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END: RNAO influences healthy public policy to positively impact the determinants of health, supporting Medicare and strengthening a publicly funded, not-for-profit health-care system.

- Paul-André presented to French speaking RNs in Sudbury on **political action** in June.
 - Paul-André met regularly with France Gélinas, MPP of Nickel Belt. Also, he met with the new MPP of Sudbury, Joe Cimino, and his assistant on July 19th.
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OTHER:

- The CNS Association of Ontario has been selected to host the RNAO's **90th Anniversary** AGM on April 16-18, 2015 at the Toronto Hilton, downtown. Mark your dates!
- Paul-André has been elected for a two-year mandate as Co-Chair of the Sudbury-Manitoulin Ethics Network (**SMEN**) effective as of July 1st, 2014.
- He attended the AGM of the HSN- Health Science North- University Hospital in Sudbury on June 19th. André Picard was the invited guest presenter.
- He attended also, the AGM of the Social Planning Council of Sudbury on June 23rd.
- Paul-André chaired the Nursing Week Celebration for the RNAO-Sudbury. Nursing Awards were presented to distinguished members. The Mayor attended and made the official declaration. Monday, May 12th. <http://chapters.rnao.ca/sites/regions/files/newsletter-rnao-sudbury-2014-05-14.pdf>
- A note to the RN Journal was published in the July /August 2014 issue, on page 7 – “More ‘real’ dialogue needed on euthanasia.” <http://rnao.ca/sites/rnao-ca/files/RNJ-JulyAug2014-WEB.pdf>
More information regarding documents available to improve our understanding of good care and avoid euthanasia :
http://cns-ontario.rnao.ca/sites/cnsig/files/RNAO-Assembly-March-2014_P_Gauthier.pdf
- We attended the RNAO provincial AGM in Toronto on May 1st-3rd and the Workplace Liaison meeting.
- CNS Association's Executive meetings took place on February 24th, April 22nd, June 3rd. Next meeting Monday, Sept. 8th.
- Paul-André attended the presentation of Ontario's Human Rights Commissioner, Barbara Hall, in Sudbury on July 15th, when they released more information about the province's transgender rights policy. A collaborative video has been prepared in Sudbury to educate the police officers and will be

used across Ontario, if not across Canada. Transgender awareness; consult this link for more info:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ciHcE1MSUxk>

- Elisabeth Jensen attended the International Nurse Practitioner and Advance Practice Nurse Network (INPAPNN) conference in Helsinki, Finland August 18-22. Along with Shelley Walkerley, RN-EC, PhD, she presented a paper “Personal essays for admission to the PHCNP Program; can they predict success?”
- **Clinical Nurse Specialist Recognition Week, beginning on the birth date of Hildegard Peplau - September 1st and ending September 7th.**