

## MEMBERS' VOICES: February –April 2014

### Speaking out for nursing - Speaking out for health

**SUBMITTED BY: Paul-André Gauthier & Elisabeth Jensen**  
Co-Presidents, **CNS Association of Ontario**

**END: Engage with registered nurses to stimulate membership and promote the value of belonging to their professional organization.**

- 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 responded to e-mails from members and non-members who are interested by our association and activities.
- Our latest newsletter included the Nursing Awards that we are going to give in May 2014. <http://cns-ontario.rnao.ca/awards>
- CNS Association of Ontario: Annual General Meeting on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.
- We attended Webinars: CNA – AIIC, CNS; RNAO.
- We realize that we have maintained a minimum of 250 members (RNs) over the past years. We do not have any undergrad nursing students. For example:
  - Oct. 31, 2011 : 250 RNs
  - Oct. 31, 2012 : 251 RNs
  - Oct. 31, 2013 : 262 RNs
  - Oct. 31, 2014 : \* more than 269 RNs-- we already achieved this number in Feb. 2014.
- These numbers show that our Association is **growing**.
- We invited all our members (CNS) to participate in the consultation done by the **Canadian Nurses Association** to complete an online survey as part of a validation project for the **competencies** of clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) in 2014.
- In Ontario and in Canada, for future CNS, we are looking at a Master in nursing including a **minimum of 500 hours** in advanced clinical expertise in one area of nursing.
- E-mails are sent to members 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.**

- We presented at the **NACNS (CNS – US) conference** in March 2014. <http://www.nacns.org> - Orlando, Florida, USA:
  - Elisabeth Jensen, Friday, March 7, 2014 => “Personal essays for admission to the MSN-PhCNP Program; can they predict success?”
  - Paul-André Gauthier, Thursday, March 6, 2014 => “A clinical nurse specialist implementing massage in primary school to deal with problem behaviors.”
  - Paul-André Gauthier, Saturday, March 8, 2014 => “A clinical nurse specialist studied the challenges of RNs working in oncology.”

- Paul-André did the same 2 presentations in French at the **ACFAS-Université Laurentienne** on April 4 on the French research day. <http://www.acfas-sudbury.ca/acfassudbury/JSS/resume.html> on page 4 on the [Horaire des présentations](#).
  - 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:** topics such as euthanasia, medically assisted suicide, children with mental health problems such as ADHD, etc. => Radio, newspapers (Northern Life- Sudbury; Le Voyageur). Ex. [http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=HWJZ2uI\\_TwQ](http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=HWJZ2uI_TwQ) (in French).
- 

### **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.
  - **We have 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.
- 

### **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 will be presenting to RNs in Sudbury and in Ottawa on **political action** in May and June.
  - Discussion in Sudbury regarding the **mental health** challenges regarding the waiting lists for children. Paul-André met with various organizations. He will meet again and present to the French Public School Board of Greater Sudbury in May.
  - He was the guest speaker on **euthanasia** at the lunch meeting of the Retired Women Teachers of Ontario, Sudbury-Manitoulin Chapter in February.
  - He was invited by the University of Sudbury to present on Ethics, **euthanasia** and palliative care in March.
  - Paul-André met France Gélinas, MPP of Nickel Belt on April 22 to discuss concerns regarding health-care issues, palliative care and the need for CNS in hospitals.
  - Paul-André is going to accompany France Gélinas for Nursing Week (May 16), details to be confirmed.
- 

### **OTHER:**

- We attended the Assembly meeting and Day at Queen's Park on February 26, 27 and 28, 2014 in Toronto.
- Paul-André attended presentations by the Northern Ontario School of Medicine (NOSM) in Sudbury on palliative care on Feb. 20 and March 27. More presentations are coming in the next few months.

- He attended the Sudbury-Manitoulin Ethics Network (**SMEN**) in February, March and April; various topics are being discussed including Bill 52 (Québec) and the planning of educational sessions.
- Paul-André received the **June Callwood Award** of the Hospice Palliative Care Ontario (HPCO) on April 27, for his work in palliative care over the years. <http://hpcoco.ca/awards/>
- Paul-André is chairing the Nursing Week Committee for the RNAO-Sudbury and the plans for the celebration are well underway. The Mayor's office has confirmed her attendance and the Nursing Week declaration has been prepared. Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at Bryston's. <http://chapters.rnao.ca/sudbury-district/node/1589#attachments> There are four (4) awards to be given away this year.
- RNAO- BPG are posted on the NACNS – CNS Association (USA): “Links to Guidelines and Organizations” <http://journals.lww.com/cns-journal/pages/default.aspx>