

**MEMBERS' VOICES: September 2018 – February 2019**  
**Speaking out for nursing - Speaking out for health**

**SUBMITTED BY: Paul-André Gauthier, RN, CNS; PhD (nursing)**  
Provincial President, **CNS Association of Ontario.**

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

- The CNS Association of Ontario is celebrating **40 years in 2019** !!!
  - A reception is planned for June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- We have:
  - For Oct. 31, 2011: 250 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2012: 251 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2013: 262 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2014: 300 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2015: 274 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2016: 278 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2017: 253 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2018: 239 RNs
  - For Oct. 31, 2019: in progress
    - On January 14, 2019 : we had **218**.
- We are updating our Facebook and Website to add information and encourage members to contribute.
  - our website: <http://cns-ontario.rnao.ca/>
  - our facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Clinical-Nurse-Specialists-Association-of-Ontario-Canada/113210988761198?fref=ts>
- We are in the process of preparing the next Newsletter and the Nursing Awards and recipients are going to be announced on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
- We have called for nominations for two types of awards: the *CNS of the Year* & the *CNS Student Award* (for RNs studying at the level of Masters' in Nursing).
- We have Education Awards for 2018-2019 of \$1,000 each. Info was shared with the membership last Fall. Two (2) recipients were approved in January 2019.
- We responded to e-mails from members and non-members who are interested by our association and activities.
- We are going to host our own Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 in Toronto.
- Seven (7) emails were sent to members on various topics since last September. With the latest one, we were asking the CNS members to submit articles for our Newsletters and calling for nominations for our awards.

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

- The President adds regularly comments on the Facebook of Radio-Canada (radio) for the North and Toronto.

- He is responding to articles and/or messages on Facebook and **LinkedIn** that relate to nursing, health, and CNS. We have international CNSs and nurses following us on both **Facebooks** CNS-ON and CNS-C ! We are receiving support and many “likes” from nurses and the public.
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### **END: RNAO speaks out on emerging issues that impact on nurses and the nursing profession, health and health care.**

- **CNS Association of Canada** – CNS-C (not-for-profit), a bilingual association. We had the Annual General Meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018:
    - We have representatives from all regions of the country.
    - Three of four national Executive members are CNSs from Ontario. The President is Cheryl Forchuk, the President-Elect is Marie-Lou Martin, and the Treasurer is Paul-André Gauthier.
    - Elisabeth Jensen is continuing on the national board as Ontario’s representative.
  - The CNS-ON association is collaborating with the CNS Association of Canada to host our 1<sup>st</sup> CNS national conference on June 6-7, 2019 in Hamilton (ON). The call for abstract for the conference was extended to February 14, 2019. Moreover, we will be celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary CNS-ON with our CNSs members and colleagues from Canada !!!
  - It helps to alleviate the confusion and to clarify that the nurse is a clinical nurse specialist (CNS). The use of these terms: **CNS** or **APN-CNS** or **CNS-APN** is much better among nurses and the public.
  - We are speaking out regularly... For example, the interviews done with the media and the information shared on the social media regarding health issues.
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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.**

- Political action regarding the promotion of CNS in health care:
  - The President shared the political action which he undertook in representing and speaking on behalf of our association in his meetings and media interviews.
  - The President met in July 2018 with the MP for Sudbury and the MPPs for Nickel-Belt and Sudbury.
  - He met once more on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 in Sudbury with both MPs and both MPPs to rally against the Francophone cuts of the Ontario government.
- Also, we support RNAO’s Action Alerts.

### **OTHER:**

- We submitted our financial report 2017-2018. It was provided to Nancy Campbell, Director of Finances at home office, at the end of November 2018, fulfilling RNAO’s requirement.
- We attended the RNAO Assembly meeting & Interest Groups meeting on October 12-13, 2018 in Toronto.
- In October 2018, at the Assembly meeting in Toronto, we have concerns and made suggestions to improve interaction among RNAO members.
- Furthermore, we have not received any communication with home office regarding the CNS resolution approved on April 20, 2018 at the RNAO AGM.