

MEMBERS' VOICES: April 1 – SEPT 30, 2012
Speaking out for nursing: Speaking out for health

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EMERGING ISSUES

What began as the Annual General Meeting of the Clinical Nurse Specialists Interest Group became the first meeting of the Clinical Nurse Specialists Association of Ontario as members voted in favour of changing the name of the group. As we move to revise the bylaws to conform with the changes to RNAO's bylaws, this change will be reflected throughout. The executive is also working on revising the logo and masthead to reflect this change in identity.

There is increased interest in Clinical Nurse Specialists as reflected by the publication of a survey led by Dr. Kirkpatrick at McMaster University and the publication of an article in the June edition of the Canadian Nurse. This summer saw a survey of educational programs by the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) with specific questions about CNS education. The results are not yet available. Research out of the United States is clearly supporting the value of CNS's in improving outcomes and reducing iatrogenic problems for patients. How the CNS is identified in the US and how the CNS is identified in Canada does differ considerably as they have specific educational requirements and mandatory certification. As the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) continues to exert influence on health care and nursing practice, it will be important to assure that the CNS educated in Canada is competitive in the career market. All of these things create both challenges and opportunities for the Clinical Nurse Specialists Association of Ontario over the next decade.

POLICY/POLITICAL ACTIVITY

MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS

MEMBER SERVICES

The summer/fall newsletter is currently being assembled and it is hoped it will be out before the Assembly of Presidents.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

STUDENT REPRESENTATION / INVOLVEMENT WITHIN LOCAL CHAPTER / REGION WITHOUT CHAPTERS / INTEREST GROUP

We continue efforts to recruit a student for the executive.

OTHER: congratulations go to-

1. *Sommer Froats RN, BScN received the Student Award at the AGM*
2. *Ester Coker, RN, MScN, PhD (c), received the Education Award (\$1000) at the AGM.*