



September 2008

Volume 30 #3

Newfoundland & Labrador
Operating Room Nurses Association

President's Annual Report

2007-2008

N&LORNA MEMBERSHIP

Membership plays a key role in our professional association. There is great strength in numbers; which enables us to move forward, influence change and become an important part of the political scene. Our voice is heard provincial and nationally. With the support of each member we will continue to recruit, retain and grow as an organization. At present there are 93 active and 5 associate members.

CERTIFICATION

Certification is growing for most groups unfortunately we are one of two that is seeing a decline. Perioperative Certification Canada is recognized country wide and is an indicator to employers and professional licensing bodies that you are a qualified, competent and current perioperative nurse. Three nurses certified in 2008 and five renewed there certification and encourage those who haven't, to become certified. As of July 1, 2008 there are 82 certified perioperative nurses in Newfoundland and Labrador.

NEWSLETTER

The provincial newsletter provides a means of education, allows us to communicate with each other, and share our experiences. It is published three times a year and e-mailed to all members with an e-mail address. If you do not have an e-mail address please ensure that your site liaison is aware of this. Every attempt will be made to ensure all members receive a copy of the newsletter. The newsletter may also be accessed through the N&LORNA website.

CONFERENCES

Provincial:

St. Anthony September 18 - 21, 2008

Gander - 2010

National:

St. John's, NL June 7 - 12, 2009

(2009 is election year there will be an AGM scheduled during the conference week)

ARNNL ANNUAL MEETING

I attended the ARNNL AGM September 15-17, 2007 and was very pleased to see Glenda Tapp's poster presentation "Preventing Surgical Site Infections:", presented during the conference. To see highlights of the 2007 ARNNL AGM please refer to the N&LORNA December newsletter. Due to prior commitments I was unable to attend this years AGM (June 3, 2008), Margot Walsh attended on my behalf.

ORNAC UPDATE

Data Base

A data base has been developed by ORNAC to include all provincial members. The N&LORNA secretary will send a list of its members and addresses to ORNAC each January. If you have not renewed your membership by January you will not be entitled to the subsidy for the National Conference or CORNJ.

Elluminate

Is an online virtual office where a computer and head set with a mike enables people to communicate back and forth with each other. The person chairing the meeting can display and communicate from their computer to be seen by each other member attending the meeting. 10 seats have been purchased through ORNAC and anyone who is a member or ORNAC can access this program. The Standards Committee have been conducting their business through Elluminate for the past two years. If you are interested in using this system it can be arranged through Marcy McKay the web master. For more information related to Elluminate you can google "Elluminate online learning and web conferencing".

Website

The ORNAC website has been revamped to provide you with a better user friendly system. To access our provincial website you will need to log onto the ORNAC site www.ornac.ca . Once you log into the ORNAC site you will see headings at the top of the page if you click on the first heading "Our Organization" and scroll down you will see "Provincial Chapters" click on that and it will give you a listing of all provincial chapters. Click on N&LORNA to view our provincial site. If there is something you would like to see added to this site please do not hesitate to e-mail me or your VP-Public Relations.

CNA Biennial Convention

I am proud to say that one of our ORNAC members Margaret Farley who was also a past president of ORNAC received a Centennial Award and the Order of Merit for Clinical Practice during the CNA Biennial Convention June 16-18, 2008.

EDUCATION

- Post Basic Course in Perioperative Nursing for RNs one student incomplete. Plans to complete preceptorship experience this fall.
- Operating Room Technician Course for LPNs - six applicants registered; five graduated.
- Registered Nurse First Assist Program - one applicant presently completed mentorship hours, not yet completed the program. The Centre for Nursing Studies have received a few calls from people outside the province interested in the program. There have been no applicants to date outside NL.

AWARD AND BURSARY DEADLINES

- N&LORNA Annual Award for Bursaries and scholarships deadline June 20, 2008 - no applicants
- ORNAC/Johnson Medical Products Bursary - January 15, 2009
- Cardinal Health Research Grant - March 15, 2009
- Isabella Adams Award - Decemeber 31st, prior to national conference
- Lorne Flower Award - January 15, 2009
- Muriel Shewchuk Leadership Award - January 15, 2009
- Solumed Award - no decline
- ORNAC/J&J/Drake Thompson Award - no deadline

For more information on these awards visit you ORNAC website www.ornac.ca

Thank you to the executive for your support and dedication over the past year.

A huge thanks to the national conference committee chairs and members for the many hours you have worked and continue to work to bring the ORNAC National Conference to Newfoundland and Labrador. You have taken on a task like no other and for that I commend you!!

Corenia Price RN CPN(c)

N&LORNA President

VP EDUCATION REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2008

Hello to all N&LORNA members,

It's hard to believe that winter is just around the corner. I'd like to say a big thank-you to St. Anthony for hosting our 29th Annual Provincial Conference. It was both educational and fun. The planning committee obviously put in a lot of time and effort to ensure a successful conference.

The ARNNL hosted their 54th ARNNL AGM in June, 2008. Jim Feltham was elected their new president.

CNA has released its revised Code of Ethics in June, 2008. For your copy, you can go to the website: www.cna.aiic.ca .

CNA is accepting applications for certification until October 17, 2008. The exam is scheduled for April 4, 2009. There are eighty-two nurses currently certified. Five have recertified.

RN ACT 2008 Proclaimed. This act increases the responsibility of ARNNL council to review its procedures, increase public involvement and set standards for Nurse Practitioner practice. New regulations and bylaws need to be drafted and then approved by council and the Minister of Health and Community Service.

2008 Innovations Conference was held in June, 2008. One hundred and seventy-five in attendance. Presentation handouts are available online at: www.arnnl.nf.ca .

Available for sale, on the ORNAC website, are the latest ORNAC Standards Module, 19th Edition.

While on the ORNAC website, please note there is information available regarding chances to win trips to the ORNAC National Conference hosted in St. John's in June 2009. We are very excited to be hosting this conference. Everyone is quite busy planning this event.

The RNFA program continues to expand. In Gander, there are three nurses in the RNFA role, one in St. Anthony and one in Corner Brook. There is one current applicant who has completed mentorship hours, but has not yet completed the program. At the HSC, four nurses are currently in the Cardiovascular specialty.

The Post Basic Program in Perioperative Nursing for RN's has one applicant who will complete their preceptorship in the fall. Four have recently completed the program.

Five students have completed the Operating Room Technician Course for LPN's which is offered through the Centre for Nursing Studies. Six new applicants have registered.

Members applying for N&LORNA Annual Awards for Bursaries and Scholarships need to be aware of guidelines necessary to applying for such awards. These guidelines are available in the Rules and Regulations manual. In order to keep our members better informed, we have decided, as an executive, to place these Rules and Regulations on the ORNAC website. Any revisions that are made can be easily updated only by Past President, Marcy McKay. We are hoping to have these

Rules and Regulations installed on the ORNAC website later in the fall, so everyone will then have full access to them.

I have included some rules and regulations regarding criteria for conference draws, and scholarship applications in this newsletter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer Long

VP Education

VP Public Relations Report

Greetings to N&LORNA members ,

This is my first newsletter , so hopefully it will be up to snuff . I am happy to take over from Pauline for the next year , she has agreed to help me with the assembly of the newsletter . Hopefully I have included all liason reports , but if any are missing that you know of , please forward , and I can amend the newsletter accordingly .

The conference in St Anthony was a great success , thanks to Kerry and the planning committee for a job well done . I have included a post conference report from Kerry in this newsletter that I received from Kerry .

Corenia has compiled a slide show from St Anthony's Provincial Conference , so if you have power point on your computer , and wish to have the slide show , just email Corina , and she will forward it to you . If you don't have power point she can send you a CD . Corenia's email address is corenia@gmail.com .

Corenia has also asked me to pass along that when she emails the membership , about 12 emails bounce back to her , so if your inbox is full , or the address is wrong you wouldn't get your mail from her . Contact her if you are having a problem .

The next newsletter is due in December , hopefully now that my first one is completed , the rest will be a breeze .

Regards

Janice Roche

VPPR

To all NL OR Nurses,

It seems we can't get a chance to catch up, since hosting the OR Conference in September. It's back to business as usual, and more besides. Just wanted to say a big Thank-you to all who attended and supported our conference Sept 18th-20th, 2008. It was a huge success, from the feedback I've received. It was very nerve recking to say the least to host this conference in our small town of St Anthony, for the first time. But, we did, and everyone seemed to enjoy it to the fullest. From our Educational Sessions , to the Sales Exhibits, to our Socials , a good time was had by all(I think). We had 53 Nurses Register, and 9 Sales Companies. Not too bad for all the way up the Northern Peninsula. A special thank-you to the sales reps and their companies who supported our conference. As most of you know, without their support these conferences would not go over so well as they do. I hope we'll all return the favor, so to speak, when it comes to supporting their work. To all 53 nurses who attended, a huge Thank-you, for coming, and I hope lots of fond memories were taken back home. To all who had anything to do with helping organize this event, from the clerical staff here at our hospital, to our M&S staff, to our IT staff, to our Biomedical staff, to our Education and Management staff, to all the local Businesses, etc , A Huge Thank-you. All in all, we are very proud to have hosted this conference here, and now that it's over, as Sherry Rumbolt would say " you guys did all right, Kerry my son". Thank-you to my OR staff for helping to make this conference such a success.

See you all again in St. Anthony in another 29 years. Just Kidding, LOL. Take care to all. Have a good year, and will hopefully see some of you at the National Conference in June, in St John's, "George Street". Can't wait!! Tx.

Kerry

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Liason Reports

Hi Operating Room Colleagues:

We are getting ready to start our Fall Schedule, with all seven O.R.s running as of Sept. 8.

We have enjoyed the summer slowdown, but have been busy, especially with after hours cases. The weather, has been dreadful in St. John's most of the summer, so I hope that some folks have been enjoying better weather across the island.

Our N& LORNA group have met regularly throughout the past year, our last meeting was a sleepover at Janet Angel's country place. We have 12 members currently and the following are our executive:

President Debbie Keough

Vice President Michelle Battcock

Treasurer Joanne Picco

Secretary Janet Angel

Liaison Shirley Taylor

We will have seven members attending this Provincial Conference in St. Anthony.

We have done various fund raising activities such as a wine rack filled with wine, books are fun, sandwich days, a summer basket with a digital camera and beach “stuff”, and yet more “booze”, over the past year.

We have done approx. 6500 cases in the last fiscal year. We have experienced lots of retirements of both RNs and ORTs in this past year and more to come in the fall. Several new surgeons have joined our staff, one Vascular surgeon will arrive in Oct. and one of our Vascular surgeons will retire. One new anaesthesiologist, Dr. Ridi, will be coming in the fall.

Weekly inservices occurred throughout the year with updates on various equipment: Gamma Nail, Maxiofacial plating system, Zeiss Microscope, Medtronic Navigation System, Bard mesh, Valley Lab Triad ESU. Other topics included; positive pt identification, MRO update, Safer Health Care Now (special speaker Dr Claude Lafamme), T.B. management, Radiation safety, Clinical issues days, and monthly staff meetings.

Our cross site policy group of nurses met, whenever staffing permitted, to continue their important work for our program.

This past year many of the staff attended an A.O workshop, and a Laser workshop in June.

Stryker is presenting a workshop on T2 Nailing and Bipolar in Sept, 2008

The staff have preceptored several students and orientated many new nurses throughout the past year, a sincere thank you to everyone involved.

Both of our RTs have completed the Anaesthesia Assistant Course, congratulations to them, work is currently being done on the implementation of this new role in the O.R.

Several of our nurses are working on the various committees for the 2009 National Conference: Laura Ellsworth, conference co-chair, Glenda Tapp, Coordinator for Program, Valda Tilley Coordinator for PR and Registration, as well as many others are very busy this year.

We have finally started using the various Harmonic Scalpel equipment in ENT and General surgery. We have decided to go with the newer technology for the Navigation System for ENT, this will be the first unit in Canada to my knowledge.

This year Dr. Felix and the Gen Surgery O.R. team have been involved with the Mamosite Catheter insertion Program for women with breast cancer, for radiation treatment.

The Safer Health Care Now project is working on standardizing all antibiotics at SCM site

The Skin Prep Research project is still in the Data Analysis phase at the present time.

I think that about covers the year .Have a wonderful conference, thank you to St. Anthony for your hard work, we hope to see you all in St. John's for the National in 2009.

Respectfully submitted

Shirley Taylor

Liaison Officer

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Hello once again to our fellow NLORNA colleagues;

It is hard to believe that summer is nearly over and we will soon be meeting for the NLORNA conference in September. The time has gone by sooooo fast. We hate to see the cooler weather approaching ,but as they say--things could always be worse.

Joanne Moss held the year end get together at her house in July. A delicious BBQ was enjoyed by all those who attended.

I am still not able to let you know how many people will be able to attend the conference in St. Anthony. Hopefully we will know by early next week and I will certainly let you know as soon as I find out. I am sure it will be a very interesting and informative conference.

It has been a busy year at the HSC OR. Following are the number of surgeries in each service that were performed between Aug '07 and July '08.

Ophthalmology-- 3352
General Surgery--1188
Gynecology--1768
Gyne Oncology--172
Urology--1072
Plastic Surgery--531
Orthopedics---1105
Cardiovascular--642

Neurosurgery--584

We have been on a slowdown over the summer months as usual, this will end after next week and we will be back to all rooms running.

General surgery has a new piece of equipment called Erbejet. It has so far been used in Dr. Hogan's cases involving liver dissection. It uses saline in hydrodissection.

Another new piece of equipment is the harmonic scalpel.-used by urology and general surgery.

We are happy to have a new staff member come and work with us. Juanita Strowbridge has moved home from Ontario and is working casual in the O.R. Welcome Juanita!!!!

Congratulations go out to Todd Chard on graduating with his B.N. Way to go Todd!!!!!! He's also pretty thrilled with his new Harley!!!

More good news-Tanya Whiffen and D.J. Yetman have both accepted permanent part time positions in the O.R.

Unfortunately, there is also some very sad news to report.

Dr. Hanna and Dr. Dow passed away in May. They both worked many years at the HSC and will be missed greatly. Also, one of our anesthesiologists-Dr. Bob Greene -passed away in August. Everyone in our O.R. had the true pleasure of working with Bob- a very kind and gentle man. He will be sadly missed.

We continue to prepare for the national conference in June '09. It is fast approaching and the various committees are working hard to ensure we put off a great conference.

Well I think that's about all the news for now. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in St. Anthony.

Take Care

Karen Healey

Liaison HSC

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Hello from Gander:

Well another summer is quickly passing us by, as we get ready for the upcoming conference in St. Anthony, next month. We are hoping to send 7-8 members.

Two staff members have retired from PACU, Ann Manual and most recently Roy Young. We had a retirement dinner for Ann at Hotel Gander. We will be having a function for Roy sometime this fall.

Marie Kelly our MSA has now taken a new position on orthopaedic surgery unit as ward clerk. We had a get together for her at Legends. Our new MSA is Brian McDonald.

Recently we lost the services of Dr. Akinsooto (Obs/Gyne) who has now relocated to Ontario, thus we are down to only one Obs/Gynecologist.

In July, Dr. Brian Woolridge (Orthopaedic Surgeon) commenced work at our hospital.

Congratulations to Sandy Hodder who recently passed her peri-operative certification and to Lois Flynn who has re-certified.

Nancy Dove and Deneka Pottle have now enrolled part time in the Post RN BN/Nurse Practitioner Program.

That's all the news from Gander, see you at the Conference.

Gary Bowering R.N. CPN (c)

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Hi Everyone,

Summer has quickly come to an end, the evenings are cooler already. This year has passed by so quickly, we have been busy in the OR at The Labrador health Center. We continue to work with one anesthetist (Dr Valdes), one general surgeon (Dr Pradhan), one Gyne/OBS surgeon (Dr Rawluk), and six perioperative nurses. We have had a few changes in nursing staff with Corenia Price fulfilling the role of Clinical Nurse Specialist and myself filling the OR coordinator position for just over a year now, things are going well. We've had two nurses leave the OR; SR Eileen Penney came to work in the OR in September but now has moved on to Africa to work with children affected by AIDS. We wish her all the best and will certainly miss her. Sandra Battcock has replaced Gale Casey who has returned to the emergency department but still continues to help us with call. Sandra has fit in quite well making the

OR an even more exciting place to work. We still have one nursing position waiting to be filled.

We have done a total of 1289 cases in the OR at the Labrador Health Center this past year. Having received a second High Definition Video flexible sigmoidoscope and video Colonoscope (to replace the only non video colonoscope we had) we have completed 410 endoscopies.

Throughout the year we have had several locums' including Dr Dureke, Dr Pealing, Dr Sanchetti, Dr Mahesh, Dr Dekonda, Dr Ravi, Dr Chun, Dr Cooke, Dr Tenant, Dr Kathir, Dr Roger, Dr Tsang, and Dr Mackenzie.

We have had two ENT surgeon's visit, Dr Greenwood and Dr Ridha. Currently we have no visiting Urology service therefore Dr Pradhan has requested we purchase a flexible cystoscope to address the growing number of referrals in the region.

This past January we participated in a week long pilot project with a team from the Janeway to try and address the growing pediatric dental lists. "Operation Tooth" was a success. We completed 95% of cases booked in that week.

In march myself and the two other OR coordinators (Karen & Kerry) met again to work on regionalizing our policies and procedures. This is always a great learning experience and an excellent review of ORNAC standards.

This June we had a trial evaluation period with a loaner flexible video cystoscope which was very positive for the clients within the region. We are currently seeking funding to purchase our own

cystoscope to ensure clients in this isolated region have access to quicker diagnosis with less financial burden.

Dr Pradhan will be soon starting Laparoscopic Gastric banding (a new procedure for our hospital) once he has completed his training. We are looking forward to this new challenge. We are hoping this will have a positive impact on the clients and health care within our region.

I will be attending the provincial OR Conference in St Anthony and look forward to the educational sessions and exhibits. Thank-you to St Anthony for hosting this conference. It is a big job but well worth it in the end.

Tracey Winters RN CPN©

Labrador Health Center

Happy –Valley Goose Bay

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Hi from Burin,

It has been a very busy year as I am sure it has been at most Centers. We are just finishing a ‘summer slowdown’...but we still haven’t decided what some people’s definition of slow down actually is.

Our staffing levels are just about the same

With the exception of one full time position has now gone to two half time positions. The two positions were filled by Pat Slaney and Loriann Chislett.

Pat just moved into a beautiful new house as she starts to wind down her career and in less than a week she will get another grandchild ... a little girl. Congrats!!

We are all saddened by the tragic passing of a Colleague in St. Lawrence, our hearts go out to Sandra Jackman's family in this time of deep sadness. May God give them the strength to carry on.

We are still fortunate enough to be receiving new equipment intermittently which is always nice. And I understand there are a few more proposals that have been submitted. Keep it coming!!

As I close I want to wish everyone a great time at the Conference and hopefully we'll see a lot of you next year at the National convention in St. John's.

Take care all and have a nice fall and Season Greetings to each and every one of you.

Heather

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Greetings from the West Coast!

We are so looking forward to going to St. Anthony. Hopefully seven of us will be attending the conference.



This has been a year of change for us at Western Health Care. Staff moving within the departments.

Ethel Martin from Or to Day Surgery. Ena Decker will be substitute teacher for the peri-operative course offered. Susan Parady is co-ordinator for the implementation of meditech. Sandra Taylor will be going to the MRI Department. Tanya Keeping and Deanne Blanchard have joined us in the OR. Shiela Billiard, Carol Rowsell and Barbara Traverse retired. Marilyn McCarthy and Shelia Bennett joined us in Day Surgery. Sherri Rumbolt became a grandmother to Chase.

Orthopedics has two new faces: Dr. Kevu and Dr. Ahmad. The back instrumentation has been changed out to Legacy. The zimmer knee instrumentation is on trial.

Ophthalmology has a new microscope to improve Dr. Wijay's operating room. He also has a new fundus digital camera in his office.

Dr. Pasha left us in June. Again we are without urology services. The serch is on for a urologist.

Dr. Saratha Kathirgamanathan left us to move to Mississauga. She will be missed. Mid August saw two new anaesthetists – Dr. Kallipara and Dr. Szarvas. We are so pleased to have them with us. We hope they enjoy Corner Brook, Newfoundland as a whole.

Summer schedules saw 1 or 2 OR's running according to availability of regular anaesthetist and locums. We did manage to do 1344 cases from April to July.

Have a great fall!

See you all in St. Anathony!

Roslyn Dominey

Liasion

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Hello to all,

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and we are attending another conference. I hope you have all had a good year, personally and professionally.

The staff at Grand-Falls Winsor have been busy throughout the year. The past year we had a total of 5435 cases through our doors this year, 754 were SDA's and 2534 were done as SDC's. The rest as local procedures. Most Tuesday's we have a local gyne clinic with DR. S. Parson's, seeing approximately 12-16 pt's, a day. Most Thursday's we have a pain clinic treating chronic pain pt's. These days usually see 14-

16 pt's, comming through for treatment, by DR. J Cole. This past year we had a portable ultrasound machine donated to this service.

On a more personal level the staff continue to keep the learning curve going great with various members completing different courses. We would like to say congratulations to Barb Mayo on passing the C.N.A exam. To Ruth Butler RN, Gail Whitt RN, Audra Frampton ORT, and Cathy Braye ORT, on passing the health assessment course this past year.

The OR staff would like to welcome Dr. Wendy Willmore, general surgeon to our staff. It is great to have her on staff. Wendy says she hails from just outside Niagara Falls but to listen to her, we think she's a Newf!!!.

At the same time we were sorry to see Dr. Hamilton head back home to South Africa, leaving us without E.N.T services here in town. We wish him well in his new job back home.

Have a great conference, look forward to news from around the province through the year.

Grand-Falls Windsor

Hello to everyone from the Janeway Operating Room.

It's hard to believe the summer is over already! It's been a busy summer at the Janeway, and we are settling back in to running three rooms a day.

We have had a number of staff changes in the past year. I took a job with the Janeway float pool and was posted in the Operating Room for the summer. I then accepted the position of temporary Clinical Educator until next June while Carol Purchase is off on maternity leave. We had a couple of new grads take casual jobs this summer. Erica Walsh is still with us and Colin Slaney recently left us to take a permanent job at Toronto General OR. We miss him already! Jenn Moore joined us from Grand-Falls last February, and she's headed to Victoria this coming October. Wanda Glover has been with the Janeway Or as a casual for more than a year and she recently accepted a permanent part time job with us! Everyone is excited to keep her!! We have been fortunate enough that Adella Tucker and Evelyn Clancey have come back from the wonderful world of retirement to help us out! Big thanks to those two! Cherie Ruiz is on maternity leave with her second baby. Our biggest staff change has been the retirement of Pat Parsons at our front desk. We wish her well and miss her lots. Pamela Griffen was awarded Pat's position and has been doing a fabulous job! We also had one of our long time employees in our Central Corridor retire this past year.

With regards to physicians, we have acquired Dr. Will Flexer in the Anesthesia department. Dr. Anthony Poon has joined us in the Oral Surgery department, and Dr. Andre Hodder has gone away to do a fellowship in pediatric general surgery and we look forward to him joining us once he is finished.

We have had a number of new equipment purchases this year. ENT has purchased a new laser. Orthopedics has acquired a new spinal NIM Monitor for use during our complicated Spinal procedures.

And we even threw a few dollars at Rick Webber who bought us the new Valley Lab Triad Generator. We're still trying out all the accessories that come with that.

As far as we know there are 5 of us planning to attend the Conference in St. Anthony this September. We're looking forward to the trip up and seeing everyone again!

Karla Faulkner

N&LORNA Liasion

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Dated; August 27, 2008

Hello from St. Anthony,

How are you all doing? Another year gone by and a few more grey hairs. How time flies. Actually with planning this years conference here, I think I have A LOT more grey hairs. However, we are very much looking forward to hosting this years N&LORNA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, here in St. Anthony, for the first time. It's a lot of work, as you all know, but I'm sure we'll all enjoy these couple of days and quickly forget about all the work. We hope to make the conference a memorable one for all, and give everyone some insite to this area and our OR practice.

Over the past year we have continued to provide surgical services in, General Surgery (Dr. Fitzgerald and Dr. Beveridge), Orthopedics (Dr. Vatturi), OBS-Gyne (Dr. Sarada and Dr. Roopram), Dental (Dr. P & A Hornett and Dr. Toulumous), Ophthalmology ( Dr. Jackmam – Locum), Urology ( Dr. Hillyard and Dr. Hajek – Locums). Dr. Fitzgerald, Chief Surgeon, was awarded the Order of Canada in the spring, for his years of practice in rural NL. Congratulations again Dr. Fitzgerald. We are still actively recruiting for General Surgeons. Dr. Hajek introduced us to the TVT Sling Gyne procedures, which we've done a few of.

All in all, we've done 1095 Main OR cases, and 1664 Minor/Endoscopy cases, for a total of 2759 OR cases. Dr. Rob Farrell out of Carbonear, has come a few times over the last year, on a locum basis, to help with our scope waitlist. We have never done so many scopes in the run of a day before, averaging 14-16 per day. This has helped us big time with the scope list, and I thank him again for coming to do this regularly. Not sure how many fish he's caught since coming here, but that's another story.

Some other locums that have come over the summer include Dr. Shaffer, Dr. Enver, Dr. Para and Dr. Harris. Thank-you to them also. We have recently had 2 new anesthetists, Dr. Lee and Dr. Ernest, start work here. We now have 4 anesthetists, Dr. Mahesh, Dr. Murugasean, Dr. Lee and Dr. Ernest. All we need now are more surgeons and nurses to keep up with them. Welcome to Dr. Lee and Dr. Ernest.

From the Nursing Perspective. Adella Tucker, moved back to St. John's. We wish her and Dave well and thank her for being part of our OR team. Adella was replaced by Tammy Burden, who had worked in the OR a few years ago, and came back now full-time. Welcome back Tammy. Priscilla Mitchmore, RN Retired the end of may. We wish Priscilla well in her retirement, and thank-you for your years of service as part of our OR team. Priscilla has been replaced by Gina Elliott, who is presently working in the ICU and should be starting with us in September. Marina Davidson, RN spent the last year with us relieving Betty Murrin's LOA. Marina has decided to go back to her position in the ICU. We wish her well and thank her for helping us. Betty has been back with us for the summer. She will be extending her LOA for another 6 months, after the summer. We are presently waiting for this temporary position to be filled. We wish Betty and her family well in Corner Brook. The OR there will definitely benefit from having her as part of their team, should she go to work there. So, we will have two new OR nurses starting with us in September. Girls please bare with me for a while when looking at the call sheet. Claudine Rose is in the final stage of completing her RNFA program. I know it's early, but congratulations Claudine for completing this course. Well done. Two of our ORT's/LPN's Marlene Applin, and Carol Colubourne, have completed the Health Assessment, and are presently doing the Medication Administration Course. Congratulations and good luck to them both. Gaye Colubourne, RN is presently off taking her son to St. John's for first year of university. Not sure if I should say "Congratulations" or " my sympathies" to Gaye. Hold in there Gaye. One of these days he may be giving you money, instead of the other way around. And I guess I should mention the newest additions to our family. I am an uncle on my side of the family, finally. My youngest sis, Pam gave birth to twins, Claire and Carter, August 19<sup>th</sup>, in Gander. Planning to go see them soon, after the conference.

Got to get back to work and the conference plans. See you and talk to you all at the conference. As always, I'm sure it will be fun. Thank – you.

Kerry Decker, NUC Surgical Services

CSCMH, St. Anthony