



April ,2009

Volume 31 #2

President's Report

Hello fellow N&LORNA members, welcome to spring. I am not sure how much snow you still have, in our neck of the woods the skidoos are still running, BUT temperatures are warming up and the sun shines.

Time is quickly approaching for the ORNAC National Conference. This year will be a first time for Newfoundland and Labrador. I commend the Co-chairs Laura Ellsworth and Margot Walsh and their committees for all their hard work and dedication. One can not imagine the amount of work and volunteer hours that go into making a conference of this magnitude a success, unless of course you are indeed one of those committee members. As we know too well living in this great province we are geographically challenged. On behalf of each N&LORNA member I thank you for your time and commitment. I have no doubt our conference will be a huge success.

The national committee is looking for donations that will be used as give aways throughout the week for draws and prizes. If you want to add a little taste of your community this is a prime way to do it. This is also an opportunity for those N&LORNA members who are not able to actively participate in the national conference preparation due to distance. Time is drawing near and these items will need to be sent into the persons responsible for donations and preparing these items for draws. Please contact Val Tilley valtilley53@yahoo.ca and/or Joanne Moss jomoss@nf.sympatico.ca if you have something you'd like to contribute. It would be nice to have items that represent each area of the province.

Congratulations to Joanne Peddle on receiving the 2008 N&LORNA Annual Award for Bursaries and Scholarships. A reminder to members, the deadline for the 2009 N&LORNA award is June 30th. Please send your applications to Margot Walsh or Corenia Price. Information for this award is in the N&LORNA Rules and Regulation Binder which is also posted on the N&LORNA website, to view the N&LORNA website you must log onto the ORNAC website, www.ornac.ca.

The executive would like to thank the N&LORNA members who sent applications in for the 2009 National Conference draw and congratulate Karen Healey of St. John's and Audrey Wells of Corner Brook the two delegates who were selected to attend the Conference.

ARNNL with the help from RNFAs across the province have drafted a new RNFA position statement. This is presently in review but should be released in the near future.

The World Health Organization (WHO) worked diligently for approximately two years on a Safe Surgery Checklist. This checklist was placed in hospitals in eight cities around the globe and successfully demonstrated how its use during major operations can lower the incidence of surgery-related deaths and complications by one third. Thanks to the television show ER, millions of people got to witness the new surgical checklist in use. To view this checklist in action it can be found in Clip 5 of the episode “Old Times” – see the link below. It takes a bit to load and you have to watch a short advertisement first. Make sure you watch the entire clip. What a way to promote the “Safe Surgery Checklist”.

<http://watch.ctv.ca/er/season-15/er-ep-1501-life-after-death/#149374>

N&LORNA's AGM will be held during the National Conference on June 11th. Time will be limited and the priority will be voting for a new slate of officers; once that has been completed we will move into other business. Please take some time to think about the following vacant seats: Vice-President Public Relations, Vice-President Education, Treasurer/Secretary and President-Elect. N&LORNA's Rules and Regulations outline the responsibility for each of these roles. Each site liaison received a copy of the R&R on a CD at the 2008 AGM in Corner Brook and a copy of the manual is posted on the N&LORNA website. You can also contact any one of the present executive if you have any questions related to these positions.

Over the past 18 months one of my greater challenges has been trying to communicate with all N&LORNA members. I have a list of 78 e-mail addresses, of these 78 at least 8 of those e-mails bounce back to me. We presently have a membership of 101 this means there are 31 members that do not receive updates and newsletters. If you know of a member who does not have an e-mail address or has not been receiving updates please share the information.

Applications for renewal has been posted on the N&LORNA website and has been placed in the newsletter. Please note there have been a couple of changes made to the application form based on motions approved at the past two AGMs. It is important when you apply for your new membership if you have an e-mail address it is printed clearly on the form. Sometimes it is difficult to read the address. This is our main communication network.

The executive continue to meet monthly via teleconference if you have any questions for anyone of the executive please do not hesitate to contact them.

President Elect – Margot Walsh mwalsh@nl.rogers.com

VP-Education – Jennifer Long jenlong9@hotmail.com

VP-Public Relations – Janice Roche jroche@healthwest.nf.ca

Secretary-Treasurer - Trudy Bradbury tbradb@healthwest.nf.ca

Due to work commitments Sue Pardy our past President stepped down from the executive.

Sincerely,

Corenia Price RN CPN(c)

President N&LORNA

corenia@gmail.com



OPERATING ROOM NURSES ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

&

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR OPERATING ROOM NURSES ASSOCIATION



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

JULY 1 ____ TO JUNE 30 ____

Name CNA Certification No. / Year ARNN No

Address

City Postal Code

Work () Home () Work () Home ()

Telephone No. Facsimile No.

Necessary for membership communication print clearly e-mail address

Employer/Hospital Location

Please check one in each column:

RN ____ ACTIVE ____ RENEWAL ____

ORT ____ ASSOCIATE with CORNJ ____ NEW MEMBER ____

ASSOCIATE without CORNJ ____

HONOURARY ____

FEES

The \$35.00 membership fee includes a subscription to the Canadian Operating Room Nurses Journal
Renewal fees submitted after June 30th will be subjected to a \$5.00 late fee.

ACTIVE: Registered Nurses who function in the perioperative setting.

FEE: \$35.00

ASSOCIATE: Operating Room Technicians, Recovery Room Nurses, Former N&LORNA members.

FEE: \$35.00

ASSOCIATE: Operating Room Technicians, Recovery Room Nurses, Former N&LORNA members.

FEE: \$11.32 (You do not receive the Canadian Operating Room Nurses Journal)

HONOURARY: Approved by the Executive; confirmed at AGM

FEE: \$0.00

The membership deadline is June 30th. Failure to meet the payment deadline shall result in the forfeiture of all voting rights and other membership privileges.

Make cheque payable to N&LORNA and forward to Secretary-Treasurer.

VP EDUCATION REPORT

APRIL 2009

Hello to all N&LORNA members,

My two year term as VP Education will end soon. I'm very grateful for the opportunity of serving on our Provincial Executive. I have enjoyed this experience very much, and would like to thank the executive and our members for their support.

The ORNAC National Conference hosted by our province from June 7-12,2009 in St. John's is quickly approaching. Time flies so fast. I know that all who attend will find the experience quite rewarding and enriching. There is truly something for everyone.

ORNAC standards Module 1 8th Edition will be available for sale at the National Conference. For further information go to www.ornac.ca

This year there was one applicant for the Post basic Program in Perioperative Nursing for RN's. The applicant is waiting to complete their preceptorship. Five LPN's completed the Operating Room Technician Course in April 2008, and seven LPN's are presently enrolled in the program this year. The RNFA program had one person complete the General Surgery option in December 2008. There are two RN's from the HSC presently enrolled in the Cardiac specialty, with a possible third person to enroll in the near future. One person from Ontario is presently enrolled in the General Surgery option with the possibility of two RN's from Quebec enrolling in the General Surgery option in mid April.

There were eight people in 2008 who became perioperative certified, three of the eight certified for the first time while five of the eight renewed their certification. There are 1,566 perioperativecertified nurses across the country, perioperative nurses make up 10.3% of the total valid CAN certificates.

Just a reminder the ARNNL AGM will be held June 22-24, 2009 at the Arts and Culture Centre in Corner Brook.

I am enclosing some information regarding fire in the OR. It is really something to think about. It could happen anywhere, anytime.

See you in June at our National Conference. It will be a time to remember.

Sincerely yours,
Jennifer Long
VP EDUCATION

Fire In The OR

Fire in the OR can be very devastating for all involved. The patient, surgical team and even the facility itself. Every OR has the main ingredients necessary to start a fire. The fire triangle-heat,air,and feul. Education is the key. Communication is a must between the surgeon and the anaesthetist since they control two of the primary elements. Prevention and preparedness is essential for all of the surgical team.

Here are some things to think about and maybe incorporate into your OR

- Follow REACT – remove occupants
 - ensure doors are shut
 - activate the alarm
 - call switchboard (operator)
 - try to extinguish fire (if possible)

- ensure OR has an evacuation plan-which door? Plan to evacuate anaesthetized patient? On OR table? Stretcher? Blanket
- ensure all staff have regular practice drills and information sessions.
- Staff must have assigned daily fire duties
- Ensure staff are knowledgeable regarding locations and use of fire exits, pull stations, fire hoses, fire extinguishers
- Knowledge of various types of fire extinguishers and uses:
 - Type A – water (ordinary combustables)
 - Type ABC – dry chemical (all purpose extinguisher-ordinary combustables, flammable liquids & electrical sources)
- Ensure each OR has an Ambu bag, O2 tank available if need to evacuate patient
- Educate staff on various scenarios in which fires can occur in the OR
- Educate staff on ways to prevent fires from occurring such as faulty electrical equipment, electrosurgical safety, handling of light cords
- Knowledge of laser safety
- Ensure staff are aware of location of medical gas shutoff valves
- Keep corridors clear of any obstacles

I am including some scenarios which hopefully will further provide information of what may cause a fire and what to do if one occurs.

1. You are in a case with DR. A doing a tracheotomy when an airway fire occurs. It spreads to the drapes and bed linen.

2. During a case in the evening, housekeeping alerts you to a fire in the sterile corridor. You had just prepped your patient. What will you do?
3. You are in a case with Dr. B. The cautery was inadvertently pressed which the caught the drapes on fire. What are your next steps?
4. Prep solution pooled, causing a fire when in contact with a fiberoptic cord. What do you do?
5. There is an explosion outside your OR suite. Smoke and fire spread quickly.
6. You are in the middle of a bowel resection. The evacuation fire alarm rings. What do you do first?

These are just a few possible situations in which a fire can occur.

BE PREPARED

VPPR Report

A year has passed since I took over Pauline's post for the second half of her term. I have thoroughly enjoyed being VPPR, although it has been time consuming...it has been rewarding. I would encourage anyone interested in an executive position to put forth their name at the AGM during the National Conference in June, as this is an election year. Food for thought!!

I have included all the liaison reports that I have received, but being in an electronically advanced era, I can send any late reports as a separate attachment to the Membership. If anyone knows of someone not getting their Newsletter, please ask them to contact me via email. Our Newsletter is also online on the ORNAC website.

Hopefully we will have a strong showing at the Conference in June, providing we are not on strike....See you in June.

Janice Roche

VPPR

Greetings from Gander

The O.R. continues to be busy. We seemd to have solved the issue with Anethetists for the moment. However,in June, Dr. Ciganovic will be leaving us to go to Ontario, dropping our number down to three again.

We've had a few incidents where elective surgery has been cancelled due to unavailability of beds. This issue seems to have settled for now.

There have been several staff changes in both the operating room & PACU.. Patti McHugh started working with us in the fall. Patti completed the Post Grad O.R. Course at Capital health in Halifax. Patti hails from Grand Falls-Windsor originally so we were very pleased she came to work with us. Sheila Guy has taken a position with Professional Development & we wish her well in her new role. Lois Flynn has taken over the position of Patient Care Co-ordinator and is doing a fabulous job. Lorraine Suley has taken a temporary postition in staff education. Lorraine will be returning to the O.R. for the summer months. We've had several staff moving between PACU & O.R. & it seems like everyone has finally settled into their respective positions.

Congratulations are sent to Marlene Kelly, Anne Ledwell & Sandy Hodder who have successfully completed the Health Assessment Course. Also Nancy Dove & Deneka Pottle have successfully completed another semester of Nurse Practitioner/Bachelor of Nursing Program.

Way to go girls!!!!

Congratulations to Jennifer Rice on the birth of her son, William James. Jennifer continues to enjoy her time off with her little one.

We are pleased to say we will be sending 12 people to the National Conference in June. Needless to say we have been busy with fundraising efforts. During Christmas our chapter of N& LORNA made placemats & Christmas Wallhangings to sell. This went over really well. Edna Hartery donated a beautiful home made tote bag which was placed on tickets as another means of raising money.

Our Surgeons have been very supportive and have agreed to modify their lists to enable as many staff as possible to attend.

We'll see you at the National in St. John's.

Regina Young
Gander

Greetings from the west coast!

We are all getting geared up for the National. We are hoping to have eleven attend from here. How busy we have been fund raising. Bake sale, silent auction, lunches. Our chili, stew and soup lunches were big hits.

Congratulations to Gina Welsh, Arlene Deon who have graduated from the OR nurses course. Presently we have three doing the ORT course. Welcome to Angela Hackett, RN float pool for OR, POOR and DS. Angela comes to us from Ontario.

Busy operating rooms working full out on days , spilling over into most evenings.

Susan Pardy has returned to her position as charge nurse in general surgery. She had been away from the department with Meditech, our OR computer charting. Jennifer Day has gone back into the rotating nurses schedule.

We recently held a CPR blitz. Most of the OR now recertified for another year.

Four nurses are going to Houston, Texas for a custom pack tour with Alcon.

New equipment includes:

12 inch image intensifier and c-arm with all the bells and whistles.

Endoscrub for doing fesses.

Stryker foot/ankle fusion set

Have a great spring!

See you in St. John's!

Roslyn Dominey

Liasion

Western Health

Greetings from the Janeway,

Finally we get to experience some warm weather again. Everyone is happy the snow has melted away, and with the warm weather comes loads of work to clue everything up for the upcoming national. It seems all of the committee's are on overdrive as the time quickly approaches for us to greet our fellow Operating Room nurses from across the country. Anticipation as well as excitement is setting in around town as the final details are being addressed. Without question a fun time will be had by all as we host and participate in the 2009 ORNAC Conference here in St. John's.

We have had a busy winter and early spring here at the Janeway. With 3 to 4 rooms running a day we need to say a huge thank you to our casual staff who continue to keep us afloat as we wait with eagerness for our new staff from other area's to join us. Kim Snelgrove is due to join us in June and Sherry-Lynn Lewis will be starting with us at the end of May. We are looking forward to them arriving. We are still keeping our fingers crossed that we will see our other new staff members in the near future.

We have had three new staff member join us this winter and one return from maternity leave. Audra Frampton is an OR Tech who came to us earlier this year from Grand Falls – Windsor, Rodney Crane is a nurse from Carbonear who is doing some casual shifts with us and Betty Murphy is an MSA who has joined us this winter. We would like to extend a big welcome to all three. Cherie Ruiz is back from her maternity leave and we are very happy to have her back. We have also had 3 staff members leave us for year long positions as mommies. Pamela Griffiths and Allison Holwell had baby boys in January and Wanda Glover is not so patiently waiting for her baby to make his or her way into the world any day now. We wish all three the best with their families.

The Janeway has made some big equipment purchases over the winter. We now have a both a Stryker cordless drill and saw as well as a Synthes cordless drill. We purchased an Aesculap Ventriculoscope and Pedioscope for our Neuro Surgery program. ENT has received a new Xomed drill and Ortho has a new Pediatric Hip Locking Compression Plate system courtesy of Synthes.

We are trying to send as many people as possible to the National ORNAC Conference starting June 7th. Everyone is excited to be a part of such a huge endeavor. Those who are on committee's are working hard and those who are not are eager and willing to volunteer any help they can offer. We look forward to seeing everyone from across the province and meeting new Operating Room staff from across the country. See you all in June!

Karla Faulkner

N&LORNA Liaison Janeway Operating Room

Date: April 22, 2009

Re; Liaison Report from St. Anthony

Hello to all fellow OR Nurses. Spring is officially here, after a long winter. Still doesn't look much like spring outside, but it's slowly getting there. Temperatures are improving, and the days are longer. Nice to get up in the morning in the daylight, and nice to have those long evenings. Great weather for skidoing, or skiing for another few weeks, after work, of course.

Speaking of work, it's been a busy year again here. We did a total of 3072 Cases this past year. 1253 Main OR, and 1818 Minor OR(Incl Endoscopies, and other Special Procedures). This includes General Surgery, Orthopedics, OBS/Gyne, Urology, ENT, Ophthalmology, Anesthetics/Pain Control, and Dental Surgery.

We have had some changes in staffing. Including, the resignation of Betty Murrin, RNFA, who relocated to Corner Brook. The addition of Gina Elliott, RN, Loretta Pollard, RN, and just recent Trina Decker, RN. Welcome girls to the OR. The end of May, '09, will be the end of an era for Ms Marie Hillier, ORT, who has worked with this organization for 50 years, and has decided to retire. She will be missed by all, and we congratulate her on her retirement. Quite an accomplishment. Thank-you Marie.

The end of June, '09, we will also lose one of our casual/relief nurses, Ms Daphne Savory, RN, who is relocating to Stephenville. We wish her and her family well, and we thank Daphne for helping us out on a regular basis. You too will be missed greatly. Good luck with the move.

We need a contract soon to help replace all these nurses.....

Some new equipment that was purchased last year included, an Anesthetic Machine, Glideoscope, Flexible Cystoscope, Recovery Room Monitor, and 2 Smoke Evacuators. Looking forward to some more much needed equipment this year.

We have been approved and are planning to send 3 of us to this year's National Conference, in St. John's, including Myself(Kerry Decker), Claudine Rose, RNFA(who I should also congratulate on her new role and position as RNFA), and Tammy Burden, RN. We are looking forward to attending our first National Conference, and we thank our managers and education dept for approving our requests to attend.

Good luck to the Organizing Committee of the National Conference, and I'm sure it will prove to be a very informative and entertaining conference. See you all in St. John's, in June.

Thank-you.

Kerry Decker, RN

NUC Surgical Services, CSCMH,

St. Anthony.

Hi to everyone from the O.R. at Carbonear General:

It's hard to believe that Spring is here. Before we know it, Summer will be upon us and we'll be back to one O.R. for the season.

There have been a few changes here in Carbonear since our last update. Our biggest change to date is our new Team Leader. At the end of April, we will be bidding farewell to our present Team Leader, Veronica Pynn, as she retires after ten years in this position, and a total of twenty-nine years in the O.R. We then welcome Karen Hanley as our new Team Leader. Although new to this position, Karen is no stranger to the wonderful world of the O.R. Karen has been staff nurse here in our O.R. for the past ten years and prior to that, has worked in the E.R. and ICU. Best wishes to Veronica for a wonderful retirement and good luck to Karen in her new position.

As for our physicians here in Carbonear, we are still recruiting for one anaesthetist. With one vacancy in that department, we have had many locums to give Dr. Openshaw a helping hand. Dr. Pealing, Dr. Mahesh, Dr. Kayal, Dr. Sanchetti, Dr. Van and Dr. Buitendag have been a wonderful help to us. Also, Dr. Guha has provided locum General Surgery coverage for us from time to time, along with Dr. Coetzee.

We are also recruiting for a new Gyne/Obs. Since Dr. Garisa left last Summer, we have been operating with one Gyne/Obs and depending on locums to provide relief for Dr. Akintola. Dr. Abulhafid, Dr. Agboola and Dr. Prior have also been here to provide a helping hand. Many thanks to all of our Locums.

As of right now, we have two staff members attending the National Conference in St. John's. I'm sure a good time will be had by all.

In closing, we would like to wish everyone a great time at the Conference. Take care and have a great Summer!

Kim Sheppard

Jacqui Evans

Hi Operating Room Colleagues,

It's Easter week and we are having a slowdown, it's great, we are running four O.R.s instead of seven. We are having snow in St. John's today, so the day or two of warmth previously experienced, was just a tease as usual at this time of year.

We have finished evaluating the waterless scrub system and have tendered (as a program) for this product. We are planning to continue it's use until the tender is finished, neither nurses or surgeons want to do with out it!!!

The Skin Prep Study data is completed and Glenda Tapp will be presenting the results at the ORNAC conference in June.

The Navigation Machine for ENT (Dec newsletter) is being used and really appreciated by the ENT group. I had the lady's Auxiliary dress and go into the O.R. to view the set-up and the machine. They contributed 160,000.00 toward it's purchase.

There was a "photo shoot", yes, that's what they called it, all very exciting. I think the ladies had a great time dressing up in O.R. greens and venturing behind the "closed doors".

There are 12 O.R. nurses attending the ORNAC conference in June, and most of them are extremely busy as you can only imagine, with their various committees as the conference fast approaches.

We had two student nurses in Feb. for an eight week period, they really enjoyed their experience, so we may have some potential recruits. We have one nurse orientating and two more arriving on April 20, 2009. This will help replace all of the retirees. Joan Kehoe and Brenda Jardine both retired the end of Jan. We had a lovely retirement dinner for each of them with a great attendance by support staff, nurses, surgeons and anesthesiologists. The "O.R. Chicks" performed a song that was written for each nurse, (lots of input from all groups on funny things that occurred over the years). This performance is usually the highlight of the evening, and a good laugh for all.

We hosted a Baby shower for our pregnant ORT, the first one we've had in ages, there were lots of "OOHs and AAHs " over the beautiful outfits. A lot of our staff are of the grandmother vintage, so we really loved this celebration.

We continue with weekly inservices on Tuesday mornings, Dr Felix presented on his trip to Ethiopia, where he was one of a group of surgeons teaching young African medical students how to perform surgery, the photos from there were fantastic. Dr. Felix is returning again this month and taking another Gen surgeons (Dr Pollett) with him for this teaching session.

I think that's the update for now, we are hoping to see you all in St. John's in June.

Respectfully submitted

Shirley Taylor
Liaison Officer

Hi from Burin,

Well well well, another year or two has past?? Where does the time go?? Things are good here and we are always busy. Our days are continually full of surgeries and scopes and a lot of evenings as well as weekends..see...little change!!

We have had two Nursing students with us and they are both finished and will soon be starting their positions with Eastern Health. We have also had a few Nurses that have been crossed trained for the Day Surgery Unit, Recovery Room and the Special Procedures Room, and we need all the help we can get. They are doing great and hopefully they will be back from time to time to keep their skills up and continue to feel comfortable in their roles here.

We have had a few off due to sickness or injuries, Dawn is still off and we are wishing her a speedy recovery so she can get back with the gang again soon. I was off for awhile as well after having an MI and stent placement. I guess he wasn't ready for me yet!! I am back and raring to go.

We are sending two to the National Conference so we are hoping to see some old friends and make some new ones. We hoped to send three but it didn't work out that way. It'll be great to get all the new information from the Exhibitors and hear some interesting education sessions.

Since last year Pat has been blessed with a little Granddaughter and her time here seems to be winding down. But, who knows when she'll decide to leave? As well in the past year she moved into a lovely new home. Congrats Pat on both issues.

In closing now I wish the National Conference Committees all the luck in the world and I am sure you will put off a first class conference.

Hope to see you all in June,

Heather Antle, Nurse 11
O.R., SPR, DSU, RR
Burin

