



***December 2007***

**Volume 30 #1**

## President's Report

### **Greetings to N&LORNA members,**

I cannot believe two years have disappeared so quickly. This is my first report as your new president. I am excited to be moving into this new role and will do my best to ensure N&LORNA is strongly represented provincially and nationally.

As you know this was election year, I'd like to thank the past executive who has given their time for the past two to six years. It is through each other we continue to learn and grow. The past 28 years have provided N&LORNA with some excellent leaders and we have come a long way following in their footsteps! I'd like to welcome and thank all our new executive members for 2007 -2009.

President ..... Corenia Price

President-Elect ..... Margot Walsh

Past President ..... Susan Pardy

VP Education ..... Jennifer Long

VP Public Relations ..... Pauline Parrill

Secretary / Treasurer ..... Trudy Bradbury

### Goals of your 2007 – 2009 Executive:

- Improved communication of the newsletter via e-mail to all members.
- Improve provincial website coverage to include the newsletter
- *(to visit our website access the ORNAC site [www.ornac.ca](http://www.ornac.ca) on the left side of the page click provincial site and then N&LORNA).*
- Continue to archive all N&LORNA historical hard copy material
- Continue to scan all N&LORNA documents on to a memory stick
- Increase membership

Last, but certainly not least, assist with the preparation of the 2009 National ORNAC Conference!!!!

Please submit any news, articles, or experiences you would like to share with your fellow members to Pauline Parrill our VP-Public relations, keeping in mind it is through each other we continue to LEARN!!

On October 11 – 13 Corner Brook hosted the 28<sup>th</sup> Provincial N&LORNA Conference I would like to thank the planning committee for their hard work and dedication. The exhibiting booths were well organized and provided us with some great information to share with our colleagues. The socials kept us rockin' and the education sessions were phenomenal. It is through the hard work and dedication of our members that we are able to come together and put off fantastic events like this. Each of us that have

planned a conference recognizes the hard work that goes into making it a success and no doubt our colleagues in St. John's are striving to ensure we pull off one of the best ever National Conferences!

It has been a busy six weeks since I have taken on the role of President. I attended the ARNNL AGM in St. John's directly after the conference; this was a great experience with lots of information to share, which I have included in a separate report.

In November Sue and I attended the ORNAC BOARD Meetings with the following updates:

- Data Base: ORNAC has developed a new data base which will allow them to have a better idea as to who the provincial members are. Trudy will complete and send the ORNAC Membership out in December. The cost to be an ORNAC Member for 1 year is \$10.00. The cost of the journal subscription as an ORNAC member/year is \$13.68.
- National Conference Committee Update: Both Susan and I sit on this committee if there are any questions and concerns please do not hesitate to contact us. A list of questions was taken to the Board meeting and responses were dispersed back to the committee chairs. Marcy McKay past ORNAC President/ chair of the 2007 National Conference and Alaine Young ORNAC Treasurer will be meeting with the planning committee in St. John's in the new year to further discuss ORNAC's involvement and answer any questions the planning committee may have.
- Elluminate: ORNAC has set up a virtual office on the internet. What does this mean to us? ORNAC has the ability to communicate with each other and/or provincial members. It allows up to ten people to get together in varies geographic locations for meetings over the internet (i.e., if there are questions or concerns related to the national conference the planning committee could request a meeting with members of the ORNAC Executive/Board or previous national committee members. I expect Alaine and Marcy will review this system while they are visiting with the planning committee in the new year.
- Website: Marcy McKay the past president of ORNAC is looking after the ORNAC website and will be the person responsible for ensuring our provincial site is updated. Any changes we need made to the provincial site will be passed on to Marcy through myself or Sue. Your provincial executive will be reviewing and updating this site over the next couple of months. New updates of the executive have been submitted. Marcy is working full time as an OR nurse and will make changes during her spare time therefore changes will be made as time permits.
- CNA Biennial Convention: In 2008 the Canadian Nurse's Association will be celebrating 100 years as the professional voice of Registered Nurses in Canada since 1908. Many events have been planned throughout 2008. CNA's Biennial Convention will take place June 16-18, 2008 at the Ottawa Congress Centre in Ottawa, Ontario. The theme for the conference is "Be the Change". For more information on the 100 years celebration visit the CNA website at [www.cna-nurses.ca](http://www.cna-nurses.ca).

- Quebec's Standard Orientation Package: I thought this was particularly interesting and I added it for information only. The Order of Quebec Nurses (O11Q) is working with the Corporation of Operating Room Nurses of Quebec (CORNQ) to develop a program that will offer standardized training for nurses who want to work in the OR. This program would be paid by the government and every OR Nurse would receive the same training throughout Quebec as an OR Nurse *and as an RNFA!* A second nursing permit will be given by the O11Q and would specify that these nurses would be specialized as Perioperative Surgical Assistant Nurses. This is an enormous project that will be decided on in a couple of months, if it does go ahead the training will begin in September 2008. This year at the provincial conference an updated Rules & Regulations CD was given to each liaison person to take back to their local membership.

On behalf of the past executive I'd like to thank Lynn Anderson for her time and work in helping Angi complete this CD. I said earlier we follow in the footsteps of our past presidents, well, sometimes we continue to put those footsteps to use. For those new members who do not know, Lynn was a member for the N&LORNA executive for 6 years and continued on as the secretary of ORNAC.

A presentation completed by Glenda Tapp (N & LORNA's past VP Education) on Malignant Hyperthermia was also passed out to the liaison officers. If your local did not receive a copy please let Glenda know [Glenda.tapp@easternhealth.ca](mailto:Glenda.tapp@easternhealth.ca). This is an excellent presentation, one that the LHC have used to make changes in their own area. The sharing of information like this is one way N&LORNA ensures the highest quality of care to our patients. Thanks Glenda.

Please note the following deadlines:

- January 15, 2008 ..... J&J ORNAC Bursary
- March 15, 2008 ..... The Cardinal Health Research Grant
- January 15, 2009 ..... Isabelle Adams Award
- January 15, 2009 ..... Lorna Flower Award
- January 15, 2009 ..... Muriel Shewchuk Leadership Award
- No deadline ..... Solumed Award
- No deadline ..... ORNAC/J&J/Drake Thompson Award

For more information on these awards visit the ORNAC Website [www.ornac.ca](http://www.ornac.ca).

Wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Respectively,

Corenia Price RN CPN(c)

President N&LORNA

**Association of Registered Nurses Annual General Meeting**  
**Holiday Inn, St. John's, NL**  
**October 15 -17, 2007**

Keynote Address: Jeanne Besner

- The key message was the gap between what we say we are and what we actually do in practice! The role of an RN must become the practice in nursing but research shows otherwise!!
- She questioned whether nursing education & practice have kept pace with the demographic shift? We are working with an aging population and spoke of a study where 35% of the patients returned to hospital following discharge (63% of these people were over 65 years of age).

Jeanne said **"Each of us can be a part of the problem or part of the fix; each of us walk to the future or to the past"**. I believe as N&LORNA members we need to take a lead role not only in our OR's but also in our Association if we want to move forward into the future and make the difference!!

**Quality Professional Practice Environment (QPPE) Program.**

This is a joint project with the College of Licensed Practical Nurses Newfoundland and Labrador (CLPNL) and ARNNL which started in January 2005. QPPE - "an environment in which the needs and goals of the individual nurse are met at the same time that the client is assisted to meet his/her health needs, within the costs and quality framework mandated by the organization". In more simple terms QPPE is a "good" place to work! The following six areas have been shown to influence the quality of professional practice environments and the corresponding standards and criteria have been approved by ARNNL and CLPN to guide this initiative:

- Workload
- Nursing Leadership
- Control over Practice and Work-life
- Professional Development
- Organizational Support
- Communications and Collaboration

Pilot projects were set up across the province at different sites. Nurses participating in the project explored how their unit stood as a good place to work by completing a survey that measures their performance in relation to each of these areas. Staff identified issues and goals they want to work towards to make their environment a better place to work. Even though the program involved a lot of hard work, the fact that nurses concerns were being addressed provided motivation for their involvement in QPPE activities. Some of the goals met at different sites were adherence to visiting hours, LPN's performing to their full capacity, increase safety and security for patients and staff, improved preceptorship for new nurses, ER follow-up check list, adequate support staff to complete

non-nursing duties (i.e. dietary delivering and picking up meal trays). For more information on the QPPE Program visit the ARNNL website ([www.arnnl.nf.ca](http://www.arnnl.nf.ca)) and click on QPPE).

### **Council Ends**

Council has developed five broad Ends statements. (An End is a statement of the goals or accomplishments to be achieved, usually written with a long-term perspective.

End 1: "Healthy People in Newfoundland and Labrador" (ARNNL's vision)".

End 2: "Excellence in Nursing"

End 3: "Public Protection"

End 4: "Quality Health Care"

End 5: "Healthy Public Policy" (Visit [www.arnnl.nf.ca](http://www.arnnl.nf.ca) for more information on Ends)

### **Proposed New Registered Nurses Act:**

In 2007 work began on a new act for registered Nurses. ARNNL's current Act has been in place since 1953. The new Act requires more consumer involvement, greater responsibility for ARNNL Council, mandatory reporting of concerns about RN's practice, and publishing, in local newspapers, the names of RNs who have been disciplined, as well as facilitating NP to be able to practice to their full scope. ARNNL will set the licensure/membership fees. Council composition will change. There will be 10 RNs (down from 13) and four consumers (up from two). A more detailed report can be found on the ARNNL website and in the Nursing Access September 2007 issue. All of these requirements reflect Government's intent that self-governing occupations be more accountable to the public.

### **NurseOne:**

What is it?

It is a bilingual (English and French) information gateway, providing immediate access to healthcare journals, drug handbooks, nursing e-books, and interactive training modules.

Who can access it?

You can by going into the following website: [www.nurseone.ca](http://www.nurseone.ca) once you have gone into the website you will register on line. The only information required other than your home and e-mail address is your ARNNL Registration number. The site is owned by the Canadian Nurses Association and is offered to its members at no cost. Try it you will be amazed at what the site has to offer!! (For more information see your September 2007 Issue of Nursing Access page 16 & 17).

### **Fee Increase:**

Increasing costs, increasing regulatory responsibilities and the need to maintain the association's momentum in key program areas led ARNNL Council to put a fee increase of \$42.00/year (\$1.62 biweekly) forward to the members at the AGM. There was an overwhelming vote in favor of the increase. Current Fee \$322.00 (\$273.93 + 10.00 (trust) + \$38.07 (recoverable HST)

New Fee \$370.00 (\$315.93 + \$10.00 (trust) + \$43.96 (recoverable HST)

### **Continued Competence Program:**

Across Canada 9 out of 13 provinces is requiring maintenance of continuing competence. ARNNL are looking at a Continued Competence Program. This program will require RNs and NPs to show proof of educational competency when applying for licensure renewal.

There were a selection of poster presentations and I am proud to report Glenda Tapp (past VP Education N&LORNA) presented on "Preventing Surgical Site Infections with the Safer Health Care Campaign".  
Goals: Decrease Mortality, Decrease Re-admission rates, Decrease length of stay.  
Four Components of Care: Appropriate use of antibiotics, Avoid shaving the site, Maintain normal body temperature, Maintain Normal Blood Glucose. If you are interested in knowing more about this presentation you can contact Glenda at [glenda.tapp@easternhealth.ca](mailto:glenda.tapp@easternhealth.ca) .

Barbara Fry, a very inspirational speaker, concluded the AGM with her take on thriving in a changing workplace.

Respectively,

Corenia Price RN CPN(c)

President N&LORNA

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**Glenda Tapp, VP Education, was unable to attend the 2007 Provincial N&LORNA Conference, hence, the submission of her 2006-2007 Annual Report.**

**Greetings N&LORNA Members,**

Over the past year as your VP of Education I have attended our Executive Teleconferences, submitted letters and educational information to our provincial Newsletter, and responded to related correspondence. I continue to be on the network of Perioperative Clinical Educators from across the country discussing Perioperative clinical practice issues.

Provincially I have a couple of notations:

I recently spoke to Fran Abbott on the status of the Perioperative nursing courses being offered 2006-2007 at The Centre for Nursing Studies. There is one nurse enrolled in the Registered Nurse First Assist (RNFA) General Surgery Program, no new students for the RN Perioperative Post Graduate Program & 6 students starting the Operating Room Technician Program on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Anyone interested in further information on any of these programs may find detailed information through their webpage at [www.cns.nf.ca](http://www.cns.nf.ca) or call 777-8162.

The 2007 ARNNL meetings are in St. John's October 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. Additional information can be found on the ARNNL website, [www.arnnl.ca](http://www.arnnl.ca) . The presentations include: the proposed new Registered Nurses Act; on line clinical instruction; Nurse one portal enhancing professional development. I will be attending with a poster presentation on our Eastern Health project on the national initiative, Safer Health Care Now: Preventing Surgical Site Infections.

Eastern Health is planning a Perianesthesia workshop on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the HSC. The agenda is nearly finalized. If interested please call me or e-mail me and I will send you the details.

Our ORNAC Standards continue to be updated and Module 1 is now revised & available for sale through ORNAC, see [www.ornac.ca](http://www.ornac.ca). I am listing a breakdown of the modules & when they were last updated. Check your ORNAC Standards manual to ensure it is up to date.

Module 1 June 2007

Module 2 August 2006

Module 3 May 2005

Module 4 August 2003

In my August report for the N&LORNA Newsletter I spoke on Perioperative certification. I am sending out some application forms for any nurses who are considering writing in the spring of 2008. I believe in the certification process as it reflects your knowledge, competency & commitment in Perioperative nursing practice as well as an opportunity for continuous improvement to provide the best possible care to our patients. (The deadline for application is October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007 with the exam date set for April 5<sup>th</sup> 2008. The deadline for those recertifying is November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2007) Additional information can be found at [www.cna-nurses.ca](http://www.cna-nurses.ca).

Perioperative Nurse's Week is November 11-17<sup>th</sup>, 2007. The theme this year is "Perioperative Nurses: setting the Standards on Safe Patient Care". Linda Socha, our new ORNAC President, challenges us to raise awareness of our nursing specialty. Take a moment to read her message on the ORNAC website. Work with your colleagues and plan an OR display during OR Nurse's Week. Celebrate your contributions as a Perioperative nurse as we truly do impact positive patient outcomes.

As you know, the ORNAC conference for 2009 will be held in St. John's, June 7-12<sup>th</sup>. This major undertaking for us & our co-chairs, Laura Ellsworth and Margo Walsh, will provide you with an update at our AGM. I am currently chairing the Program Committee with OR nurses from the Janeway, HSC & St. Clare's. We are interested in your thoughts on topics and/or speakers related to your Perioperative nursing practice. If you have suggestions please e-mail me at [Glenda.Tapp@eaternhealth.ca](mailto:Glenda.Tapp@eaternhealth.ca).

On a personal note, my research project is well under way. My time has been filled with developing posters and forms, finding office space, hiring support for data entry/tabulation as well as meeting with surgeons, educating OR and clinic staff on the project. Michelle Battcock is helping with chart reviews, patient telephone interviews and post-op SSI surveillance. We are 6 months into the project and the one step prep for our sample patient population is now started. We hope to have results by the spring of 2008.

I'm sure our colleagues from Corner Brook have presented a great 28<sup>th</sup> N&LORNA conference on "Risky Business" in Perioperative Nursing Practice. Unfortunately I am unable to attend this year.

I would like to thank-you for the opportunity to be your VP of Education for the past two years. It was a great experience. Angi, Sue, Corenia, Ena and Ann, it was a pleasure to work with you. I will not be seeking re-election (though rewarding), as I have many challenges in the next couple of years.

Respectfully,

Glenda Tapp

VP Education

(2005-2007)



## Greetings from the West Coast

This has been a busy summer at Western Health Care. For the months of May - July we have done 1178 cases. Staff has been kept hopping.

Lots of changes! Dr. Grover, orthopod, left us after 5 years. He has gone to Chilliwack, BC. We wish him and his family well. Leo Maher left housekeeping in the OR and went to laundry. We will certainly miss him but we wish him well. Jocelyn Rose, RN and Sandra Kennedy RN from Day Surgery retired. Barbara Travers, RN returned to Day Surgery after many years in other areas of the hospital. Sheila Billiard RN from our OR retired. She also became a grandmother this June to Matthew. Wonder what she enjoys most? Carol Rowsell ORT also became a Grandmother this fall. Janice Roche RN took over the Day Nurse position in Ophthalmology/ENT. End Decker RN moved to Recovery Room.

Our Urologist, Dr. Pasha is working and on call every day he is in the city, so if anyone has a "spare" Urologist they don't need, send him/her our way!

We are also seeing new faces in a few doctors.

Dr. Carl Kennedy, orthopod, visits us on a fairly regular basis as locum.

We are expecting Dr. Joseph Keno, Orthopedic surgeon with a specialty in spinal surgery in September. Dr. Arnold Vermooten has settled in, also, Dr. Berths Van Rensburg, anesthesiologist will be joining us in September. We welcome them both to our hospital and our community. Dr. Val Jefford is doing a presentation on Sentinel Node Dissection at the October Provincial Conference. Val and her husband, Dr. Gavin French, had a baby girl this fall, Gabriel.

New equipment in the OR includes: a NIM monitor for ENT. Stryker high speed drill used with a TPS system in ortho. Glidescope for anesthesia to assist with difficult intubation. Our electrical system is being upgraded.

Western health care had been planning a mock disaster for some time. Sept 26, 27 were the dates set for it. The Coast Guard, RCMP, RNC, Fire Department, even Marine Atlantic's Leif Erickson was involved. The first day the Leif Erickson broke down and was unable to participate. The second day the Leif was able to make it. One of the drills was to evacuate the people on board into life boats. One of the engines on the life boats malfunctioned and 21 people had to be treated. Three were airlifted to St. John's for smoke inhalation treatment. The others were treated at Western Health Care. Be careful what you plan for !!!

Our local Chapter is dedicated to N&LORNA. Coming from a much larger group of OR Nurses i.e., ORNGT, I am impressed by how much is done and accomplished by such a small group. Preparing for the Annual Provincial Conference has shown me what great people I have the privilege of working with. Thanks for coming to Corner Brook to attend our Provincial Conference. Good luck to Kerry and all of the St. Anthony nurses planning the 2008 Provincial N&LORNA Conference.

Roslyn Dominey, RN

Liaison, Corner Brook Chapter, N&LORNA.

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## **NEWS FROM ST. ANTHONY**

**Dated, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2007,**

Hello, from St Anthony, to all fellow OR Nurses. Another year has gone by, and this year's conference is only a few weeks away. We are looking forward to attending the conference this year in Corner Brook. I hope to bring with me, 3-4 of our OR nurses, 2 of which have never been to one of these conferences. Boy are they in for a treat, and I'll leave it at that. With us planning next year's conference, I wanted to bring everyone, but I'll have to wait till next year for that. We are looking forward to planning and hosting the conference here in St Anthony next year for the first time. We've chosen the dates, September 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2008. Let the planning and organizing begin! I hope to get a lot of helpful tips in Corner Brook this year.

A little on statistics for this past year. It was another busy year for our OR. Main OR Cases totaled 1211

Minor OR Cases: totaled 1582

Total OR Cases: 2793

We now have just two full-time general surgeons, Dr Fitzgerald, who is starting to plan for his retirement soon, and Dr Beveridge, who signed on with us last September. Unfortunately Dr Hillyard, our general/urology surgeon, left here in December of last year. He had been here for 20 years and his services on a full-time basis are missed. He does return for locums, now and then. We did get an ENT surgeon, Dr Ridha. He has been here since last winter, on and off, and is still deciding whether he'll move here full-time or not. Our ophthalmology services are also being done on a locum basis, with Dr Chris Jackman coming out of St John's regularly. We've come a long way in the way we now do Cataract surgery. I sat in on a teleconference a while back on cataract surgery, and it's nice to know we're on par nationally. We still have our 2 OBGYNs, Dr Sarada and Dr Roopram. And Dr Vatturi, our orthopedic surgeon, continues to keep us busy. We've been doing close to one total joint replacement per week over the last year, and that has kept our waitlist above the benchmark provincially for joint replacements. Cataracts are also improving. If we could just get our endoscope waitlist down. Anyone with any surgeons or gastroenterologists free please refer to St Anthony. Our Dentists also continue to be here once a week on Thursdays. Dr Vivien Pealing, one of our anesthetists, has also announced she will be resigning in November. Sorry to see her go. She will continue to come on a locum basis. We wish her well with this.

We also, unfortunately, lost one of our RN First Assists, Betty Murrin, in June. She has taken a year's leave of absence to spend with her family in Stephenville, where her husband is working. It was sad to see her go but we wish her, and her family well. We hope to see them back here next year. Marina Davidson, one of our experienced ICU nurses will be joining us soon to fill the vacant position here. Claudine Rose has taken on the RNFA program and will be replacing Betty in this role soon. Lisa Richards, one of our experienced circulators, is now training as scrub nurse. I wish Marina, Claudine, and Lisa well in these new roles.

I'm happy to report we did send one of our nurses to this year's National Conference in Victoria, BC, Maggie Linstead, RNFA. Maggie enjoyed the conference immensely and thank-you to our continuing

education department and nurse managers for granting this. We look forward to attending the national conference in St John's in 2009. I'd also like to wish Corenia Price well in her new position as Perioperative Nurse Specialist for our region, Labrador-Grenfell Health. She has already been a resource person for me and I'm sure will do great things to ensure all our regional ORs are up to standard. Good luck Corenia.

That's about all I can think of right now, and I'm also getting close to 4:00pm. Oh, I forgot, I'm ON-CALL this evening!!! Sound familiar? See you in Corner Brook. Thanks.

Kerry Decker, NUC Surgical Services  
CSCMH, St Anthony.

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### **Hello from Goose Bay Annual Report**

We are once again putting away our shorts and t-shirts and pulling out the long johns, sweaters, woolen mitts and socks, oh, summer is much too short!!!!

Here at the Labrador Health Centre we have six perioperative nurses working in the OR suite. The department consists of two theatres, a three bed PORR, endoscopy room, special procedures and day surgery unit, the staff float through each area consistently. We are also fortunate to have the CSR department adjacent to the OR suite, this is most useful when it comes to decontamination and sterilization of the OR equipment/instruments. There are two full time surgeons on site (general & obs/gyne), and three visiting specialist (ENT, urology, and ortho). For the first time in years we have three extra staff helping cover off call. The department has been in a turmoil the past few months with Corenia taking on a regional position, Tracey moving into the OR Coordinator position and two new staff orientating. Welcome to Sister Eileen Penney and Sandra Pardy who started their orientation to the OR department last month.

Over the past year we have completed ~ 1200 procedures between the main OR and endoscopy/special procedures. Thanks to the IGA grant we have received a new flexible colonoscope and sigmoidoscope.

The three OR coordinators from across the region came together in the spring to regionalize the OR Policy & Procedure Manual. There is still much work to be done with a goal for completion by March 2008.

The construction to the dialysis has finally been completed and our day surgery doors are once again open after four long months of closure.

Three staff attended the Provincial N&LORNA Conference; once again thanks to Corner Brook for a job well done. The education sessions were excellent and gave us great information to share with our colleagues. This will be my last liaison report, Tracey Winters will be the new liaison for the Labrador Health Centre.

Respectfully submitted,  
Corenia Price RN CPN(c)

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## Hi from Burin,

Can you believe it...another year has come and gone???? Since the last year end report we haven't had a lot of news to report. I will dismiss with the Stats in the O.R. and in the Special Procedures department...I don't want to bore you with the same ole same ole.

Our staff hasn't changed much. We still have the same seven full time staff. Our Casuals have been adjusted a little. Jane has since retired and returned to our casual list and, THANK YOU, JANE !! Mary has also since retired from the O.R. Casual list and is now just doing a few escorts and some one on one nursing on other units. Mary, we thank you for all your years of total commitment.

Since our amalgamation with Eastern Health we have acquired several new pieces of equipment. We had new gastroscopes, colonoscopies, hysteroscopes, a new pneumatic tourniquet, supplies in the event of an AAA episode, embolectomy grafts and accessory supplies, new stapling devices and several other operative instruments. With new stuff many times added duties as well and we have been designated the unit now doing many Out Patient Drug Infusions. And scopes?? Well, I could go on but I refuse to.....let's just say I think we should be called the Burin Scope center.

Basically that's all folks!! I want to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope the New Year brings joy, health and happiness to all. Don't forget to take time for yourselves.....stop and smell the flowers.

Heather S. Antle, RN  
Nurse 11  
Operating Room and Suites  
Burin Peninsula Health Care Center  
Burin

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## NEWS FROM THE HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Here we are again after another busy year at the Health Sciences Center. After our summer slow down of running approximately 8 rooms per day, we are now back up to 10-11 rooms per day.

We have 15 delegates attending the conference here in Corner Brook this year. Our N&LORNA local is very active with 20 members and meetings every 6 weeks or so. 8 of our members were able to attend the National Conference in Victoria. We are busy fundraising for the support of our Provincial and National Conferences, and planning for our National Conference in June 2009.

We've had 5 new nurses join our staff. They finished orientation over the summer. 3 are in positions and 2 are casual.

We also have new Doctors on staff-

- Dr. Andrew Furey – Orthopedics
- Dr. Erica House – Gynecology
- Dr. Brett Williams – Ophthalmology

- Dr Alex Mathieson – General Surgery
- Dr. Will Flexer & Dr. Amir Gammal – Anesthesia

Dr. Tennent retired in August after a busy career. Dr. Kwan is planning his retirement, although nobody believes he will actually ever leave. New babies have arrived. Tanya Whiffen, Heather Griffin, Colleen Nolan Hookey and Dr. Dave Pace all had baby girls. Kim O'Brien and Dr. Jeff had baby boys. A special mention goes to Donny Fitzpatrick who finally got his girl after having 4 boys.

Congratulations go out to Sherri Parrell on finishing her BN, and good luck to Joanne Peddle who is starting her Masters.

And that's all the news from the HSC OR.

Karen Healey

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## **ANNUAL REPORT FROM ST. CLARE'S SITE**

Hi Operating Room Nursing Colleagues,

Another year has gone by and it's conference time again. Our N&LORNA group has met throughout the year and done the usual fund raising activities. For our final meeting of the year we held to tradition and had a Barbeque at Jo Picco's home, a good time was definitely had by all!! We had 3 new members join our group this year; hopefully they will all be attending the conference in Corner Brook.

I would like to extend congratulations to Debbie Keough, one of our N&LORNA members, who wrote and was successful in obtaining Perioperative Certification. We have three other nurses who are planning to write this year. Several nurses recertified this year; we now have well over half of our nurses certified.

Five of our members, Laura Ellsworth, Janet Angel, Michelle Battcock, Glenda Tapp, and myself attended the ORNAC National Conference in Victoria in April. It was an excellent conference as usual and Victoria was fabulous.

We have held a Total Knee workshop and a Laser Course this year as well as various inservices throughout the year, with such topics as: TFN nailing system, Gamma nailing system, WHIMIS, a new Total Knee system, Floseal, fire, etc. We have also revamped and inserviced our MH protocol in collaboration with the Anesthesia Dept. It has been a challenge to try to keep up with all the new technology. We will soon be trialing a navigation system that will be used in Head and Neck surgery for procedures involving the sphenoid cavity.

We are now a year into the Safer Health Care Now project at St. Clare's Site. This project involves reducing surgical site infections in the colorectal surgery group of patients. A multidisciplinary team meets once a month. We have been working on obtaining normothermia for the patient and giving antibiotics on time. We have made significant gains in both areas as well as a heightened awareness of these issues among our O.R. teams. In October, Dr. Claude La Flamme, an Anesthesiologist from Sunnybrook Hospital, will be presenting at Grand Rounds (for both sites) on the Sunnybrook experience

with Safer Health Care Now. We will be expanding these initiatives to all patients undergoing surgical intervention.

Two of our RTs are working on the Anesthesia Assistant course, this is a distance course, with clinical component, that allows for an expansion of their roles in the O.R. Tammy Peddle Gosse has now qualified and Jessie Cox is almost finished her course. Congratulations to both on their initiative.

The evaluation of the Skin Prep project is ongoing (the ORNAC grant awarded to Glenda Tapp. Michele Battcock (one of our O.R. nurses) has been seconded for the data collection and patient communication. On Pct. 1, 2007 the implementation phase of the one step (just painting with a prep solution) will be starting. The patient population for this project is inguinal hernia, lap. Chole, and all breast surgeries.

We have recently welcomed two new surgeons, Dr. Andrew Furey (ortho.) and Dr. Alex Mathieson (gen.). We also have a group of Oral surgeons visiting every 6 weeks (they are from Halifax and N.B.). This has been very interesting for us as we get a different surgeon each time (you can only imagine what a night mare that is!!) Jo Shortall, patient care coordinator for Vascular and Oral surgery, has spearheaded this adventure. We now have a clinical educator for PARR and Day Surgery, Daphne Whalen-Brake, and we certainly are happy with this addition.

Beverly Davis, one of our ORT's, will be retiring the end of Oct. after 40 years of service, most of it spent in the O.R. and we are planning a celebration for her.

We are continuing with students rotating through our O.R.'s and recently we had a husband and wife team visiting us from the NWT. In Jan., our ORT's will be preceptoring two ORT students who will be doing the clinical component of their course with us.

Several of our O.R. nurses are participating on various planning committees for the 2009 National Conference, and we can see that fast approaching.

We will be participating in the Accreditation Process from Sept. 23-28, 2007. The Perioperative Program is being accredited under the one umbrella, and a team has been working together for the past year in preparation for this event.

We look forward to seeing all our colleagues at the upcoming conference.

Respectfully

Shirley Taylor

Liaison, St. Clare's, N&LORNA Branch.

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## **Hello from Gander:**

I would like, first of all, to thank Corner Brook for hosting a wonderful and informative conference.

Ruth Edison, who has worked in our operating room for 18 years, has now retired and moved to Paradise, on the Avalon, where she has moved into a new home. We had an enjoyable send off for her at Sue Mouland's. I will sure miss tormenting her.

Jennifer Rice has returned to the operating room from obstetrics.

Congratulations to Regina Young, Sheila Guy and Yvonne Morgan on completion of the RNFA Program.

Sandy Hodder will be writing the CNA Perioperative Certification Exam in the spring. This year Regina Young, Sandy Hodder, Anne Ledwell and Hope Maloney attended the National Conference in Victoria, B.C.

We are still doing approximately 3-5 total joint replacements per week. We have been trialing the Synthes Titanium Trochanteric Fixation Nail System (TFN) since early November.

New equipment this past year includes: Synthes (small fragment locking set & distal radius locking set), Ligasure, Novasure systems and Glidescope.

Dr. Andrew Verniquet has settled in quite well since moving to Gander from Clarenville.

Our hospital has also received another 3 year accreditation. Central Health has implemented some Safer Healthcare Now initiatives including surgical site infection. In our hospital we are currently monitoring outcomes for Total Hip Surgeries.

Our Time-out Program has been working well as evidenced by a successful audit report.

Every six weeks or so, on a Wednesday night, we meet at a local club (Legends) for a social (Wing Night).

On a final note, Lois Flynn cross stitched for all of the Coronation Street fans, a picture of "The Rovers Return" pub, which is proudly displayed in our lunch room.

That's All From Gander.

Gary Bowering, RN CPN (c)

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Hi everyone,

Your Provincial Executive is emailing out Our Newsletter – moving us into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, communication wise! Feedback would be appreciated as this is the first time for us to communicate with everyone through this medium on a group basis.

Also, any ideas of what you would like to see in our Newsletter? We could have a "Clinical Practice" corner, question and answer section, or anything else regarding Education topics you'd like. I would also like to know what you, as a member, would like to see reported from the liaison at our different sites around the province. I would like to bring your ideas and suggestions to the next Provincial Executive teleconference in January, so email me, call me, write to me and let me know.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

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