

PARISH NURSING INTEREST GROUP (PNIG) NEWSLETTER

Easter Message:

From the Editor

I often find it very hard to feel at peace with all of the challenges of daily life with my busy family, work-related stress, balancing my volunteer commitments, and physical health challenges. Lenten preparations and reflections have helped me to re-focus on important things about myself and my actions. And, thankfully, this is followed by the Easter season.

In the Easter season, each one of us is called to re-encounter the risen Jesus and told "Peace be with you".

We are called by Jesus to be at peace about our very selves, our limitations, our imperfections, and all of the things we cannot change about the world. In preparing this newsletter I have not been at peace. Trying to write relevant text and edit and count words is hard work. But suddenly, it came over me: A peace that passes understanding. The moment I stepped back, took a breath, said a prayer, took time to reflect on the point of my work, the point of Parish Nursing ministry, the point of service to others. I felt the grace of being present, the grace to lovingly parent a rebellious teenager, the grace to let go of the world where legal decisions in favour of physician-assisted suicide are seen as progress, the grace to continue to pursue working in ministry despite the obstacles, the grace to share a word or two with you and to be a midwife of Hope!

I pray that you will be given great peace as the sun rises on Easter morning! And with that peace, the desire to share that peace with the others you encounter throughout this season.

In this newsletter, you will find a review of the members attending Queen's Park Day, information about the RNAO AGM, and the End-of-Life Panel discussion (and your chance for a FREE breakfast!) and accolades for one of our Past Presidents.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

April 16th - 18th, 2015
RNAO AGM, see article pg 3

May will be Membership Survey month – watch your inbox for more details.

June 11th - 14th, 2015
CAPNM AGM & Conference
 "Ethnic Diversity: Mirror of God's Creativity"

October 3rd, 2015
Save the date!
Parish Nurses Interest Group AGM
 Toronto

INSIDE

Queen's Park Day.....	2
Pres-Elect Candidate.....	2
PN Awarded ODT.....	3
RNAO AGM and Breakfast	3
Education Opportunities.....	4
Pastoral Care Manual	4



Queen's Park Day – PNIG was well-represented!



Jeanne Lambert and Mary Lynch pause under this inspiring painting in the Legislature Building during Queen's Park Day.

On Thursday, Feb. 26th, Past President Mary Lynch, Political Action Representative Carmen James-Henry, and Jeanne Lambert, the President of PNIG all attended Queen's Park Day at the Provincial Legislature Building in Toronto. The evening before, Mary, Carmen, Jeanne and over 100 other nurses from across the province met to prepare for the breakfast with the MPPs and the leaders of the political parties. Six items of concern were brought to the attention of the MPPs: Ending Medical Tourism, raising the minimum wage, supporting toxic reductions

targets, RN prescribing, equitable compensation for NPs and all RNs, and structural reform for the health care system in Ontario.

It was impressive to have the attention of many MPPs and then luncheon with speakers Premier Wynne, Health Minister Eric Hoskins, followed by PC Leader Jim Wilson and Health Critic Christine Elliott and NDP Health Critic France Gelinas. Nurses are in a position of influence and it was evident during this day. At the same time, I, as president of PNIG, and an experienced RN, found myself feeling discouraged by and overwhelmed with the challenges we face as nurses, especially as Parish Nurses.

But, before I got too discouraged, I was reminded of the concept of being a "Midwife of Hope", a theme borrowed from Joyce Rupp's works. There is hope! I was encouraged by the cross-section of passionate and dedicated, experienced and well-educated nurses represented at this event. There may be obstacles, but there are opportunities, too. During the Interest Group session after Queen's Park, possible collaborations were explored – one with the Palliative Care Nurses Interest Group (PCNIG) and with the Professional Nurse Educators Interest Group (PNEIG). Both groups want to further explore Spiritual Care to empower nurses to provide spiritual care as well as to care for themselves in these changing times.

If any member of PNIG is interested in pursuing collaborative meetings with these other nurses, please contact me.



Your Vote Counts: Every PNIG member can vote!

Carmen James-Henry, our PNIG Policy and Political Action Officer, is running for the RNAO President-Elect Position. Carmen has a wealth of experience in nursing, volunteering and leadership and is currently the Director of Hospital Operations at St Michael's Hospital. Carmen's vision for RNAO is to inspire members and to promote Registered Nurses as knowledge professionals, agents of change, and advocates for social justice.

For more information about Carmen, go to myRNAO. At the site you can check out the candidate webinars, watch videos of the Pres-elect candidates and read their bios. myrnao.ca/rnao_election. There is also information about how to cast your vote. **Voting is open until April 15th at noon.**

Outstanding Service

One of PNIG's past presidents, Gloria Wiebe, received an award from the Anglican Diocese of Toronto in January. According to the diocesan website:

"The Order of the Diocese of Toronto...honours members of the laity in the Diocese who have given outstanding service over a significant period of time in their volunteer ministry. We give thanks to God for the work and witness of these faithful people who, in the exercise of their baptismal ministry, have demonstrated that "their light shines, their works glorify."



Parish Nurse Gloria Wiebe, receives her medal of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto from the Bishop.

Gloria Wiebe, ODT St. James Cathedral

Ms. Wiebe was nominated for her service as a parish nurse; she developed the parish nursing program at St. James Cathedral. This provides health care monitoring to the regular parishioners and hundreds of guests at the weekly drop-in, many of whom are under-housed, under-fed and under-served. She has been an advocate for parish nursing and has helped produce the standards and policies for the diocese for this ministry.

Gloria shared this: "It was an honour to receive the Order of the Diocese of Toronto for my work in parish nursing... Last year the award was given to Vivien Harris... (another) Parish Nurse. It is encouraging to see the Diocese recognize and support parish nursing in this way."

Gloria retired from the PN position but continues in a part-time position as Coordinator of the Health and Foot Care Clinic, an outreach program of the Cathedral. Gloria served on the PNIG executive as president-elect for three years and president for two years and editor of the newsletter. Presently she is a regional director for area 6/7.

Other accolades that Gloria has received include being nominated for the Toronto Star Nightingale award, receiving an Ontario Volunteer Service award, and Volunteer of the Year award from the Toronto (Don) Jail. Congratulations, Gloria, and thank you for letting your light shine!

RNAO AGM April 16-18th! Networking opportunity!

There is such a thing as a FREE Breakfast!

The RNAO AGM will be hosting many of our Parish Nurses and hundreds of other nurses from across the province. The 90th anniversary AGM will be the 17th, with preparation time for voting representatives the evening of the 16th. After the AGM, a banquet will celebrate this significant anniversary and it is hoped that many PNIG members will be attending and sharing a table together.

Saturday morning, the 18th, is an important date: at 7:45 am, it's our annual PNIG Breakfast where we will have the opportunity to share a light meal, network and discuss a little bit of business, too. This breakfast is free to all members of PNIG.

After breakfast, members are free to continue networking or to attend an educational session on Palliative Care. The Clinical Nurse Specialists are hosting a Clinical Session on Palliative Care at 9:45 am until 11 am. This is being offered in anticipation of the End-of-Life Panel Discussion which will take place at 11:30 am as the final session of the RNAO AGM.

The End-of-Life Panel Discussion, which is open to the public, includes our representative, Michelle O'Rourke. Michelle was the featured speaker at our AGM last October in Kingston and is well-qualified to speak on the spiritual care perspective on End-Of-Life issues. Lesley Hirst from the Palliative Care Nurses Interest Group will also be on the panel. Please continue to keep Michelle and Lesley in your prayers as they prepare.

More information and registration is available through the RNAO website:
rnao.ca/events/annual-general-meeting-agm-1



See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!
1 John 3:1

Education Programs for Nurses:

Course offering from Foundations of Parish Nursing.

On-Line Course Two: The Parish Nurse: Facilitating Wholistic Health through the Lifespan

Five Week Course

Dates for Course Two: Cycle 3 – April 12th to May 16th, 2015

Registration opens March 11th and closes April 8th, 2015

Course Facilitator: Fran Hudson,

RN Course Development: Anne Marie Webster and Fran Hudson

Apply today, VISIT www.stpetersseminary.ca/Programs/Parish-Nursing/21

Practice Corner:

FREE Resources! Pastoral Care Training Program

Written, Compiled & Edited by
Spiritual Care Manager & Chaplain Janet Stark

This comprehensive Canadian resource of 570 pages uses compassionate caring Christian principles in learning to provide spiritual care to people of all - or - no faith. Contact Janet for more information: jstark9@cogeco.ca

For the Next Newsletter:

- **What is happening in your ministry?** Send us a picture from a recent event.
- **Want to introduce yourself to the membership?** Tell us why spiritual care matters to you.

Word limit: 200-250 words. Email this along with a photo of yourself to: communications@pnig.rnao.ca

Your PNIG Executive

PRESIDENT (ACTING): Jeanne Lambert
jmlambert@tdgraham.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Shannon Pharoah
shannon.pharoah@rogers.com

SECRETARY AND TREASURER: Ola Babalola
divine_love25@hotmail.com

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER: Mary Lynch
marylynch@live.ca

COMMUNICATION EXECUTIVE NETWORK OFFICER (ENO): Shannon Pharoah

NEWSLETTER: Jeanne Lambert

POLICY/ POLITICAL ACTION OFFICER:
Carmen James-Henry
carmenjhenry@sympatico.ca

PAST PRESIDENT: Mary Lynch

Your PNIG MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Region 1 rep: Michelle O'Rourke
michelle@selahresources.ca

Region 2 rep: Louise Trapp
ltrapp@dol.ca

Region 3 rep: Joanne Jasper +ICHM
joanne@ichm.ca

Region 4 rep: Gail Noble
dgnoble@me.com

Region 5 rep:

Region 6 rep: Gloria Wiebe
gwiebe@stjamescathedral.on.ca or gloriawiebe@sympatico.ca

Region 7 rep: Lanadee Lampman
lanadee@rogers.com

Region 8 rep: Mary Lynch/Ola Babalola

Region 9 rep: Mary Wyllie
akw@queensu.ca

Region 10 rep: Mary Shaw +CAPNM
mbshaw@rogers.com