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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Sharon Hollett RN, BN, CPN(C), ORNAC President, works as a staff nurse in the operating room at the Saint John Regional Hospital in New Brunswick. Sharon specializes in cardiac, plastics, and orthopedic surgery. She is a Past-President of NBORN and served as the New Brunswick Board Director on the ORNAC board for three years. Sharon has also held the positions of Secretary and President-Elect for ORNAC.*

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I write this message as I am flying home from an international conference in the United States. It is my first time travelling since the covid pandemic began. After two years it was wonderful to see my fellow perioperative nurses, to interact with vendors in the exhibit hall, to attend presentations, and to peruse the poster displays. And, most especially, to network with nurses!

I cannot describe the excitement and pride that I experienced by being able to interact in person once again with nursing colleagues on this trip. It was refreshing, and I feel like I am returning home with a new perspective and a renewed energy for my representation of ORNAC.

I am very excited about ORNAC's upcoming conference in 2023 in Quebec City. It will also mark ORNAC's ruby anniversary as the association will have existed for 40 years! Truly something to celebrate! I look forward to meeting perioperative nurses from across Canada in person once again.

The virtual Annual General Meeting is now complete with two educational sessions offered after the serious matter

of ORNAC business was complete. The nomination slate, that had been meticulously prepared by our President-Elect, has been voted upon. Many of ORNAC's Directors are returning to complete their term or to begin a second term and we welcome those who are new to the ORNAC Board.

There have been two major challenges to note over the last year regarding ORNAC's leadership. One being that it has been difficult to recruit perioperative nurses able to fill board member positions. The other being that virtual meetings are challenging and lack some of the aspects of communication that we benefit from when seeing each other in person. Zoom calls are definitely not the same as speaking face to face. So we are currently planning an in-person ORNAC Board meeting to complete some strategic planning for the future of ORNAC. May Covid leave us alone for this!

The by-law work that began last year has slowed significantly due to a recent change in ORNAC's legal representation. I am, however, confident in saying that the governance committee will continue this work and

have fully revised by-laws available for a member vote in the coming months. This is a necessary part of ORNAC's business as it supports our structural integrity and ensures we meet the requirements of Canada's Not-for Profit Corporations Act. I am quickly learning that there is much to focus on behind the scenes at ORNAC so that we can continue to offer support and improve our services to our members across Canada.

This is an excellent time for nurses to join ORNAC as members and associates and take advantage of our many opportunities such as educational webinars, award applications and Certification discounts. ORNAC members also can work with colleagues on projects that support ORNAC's Mission, Vision, and Values and have the chance to participate in virtual and in person events like our 2023 conference. To all our members and associates, thank you for supporting ORNAC. Your continued membership means so much. 🍁

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Hollett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.