

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Cathleen Ferguson RN, BScN, RNFA, CPN(C), works as an RN First Assistant and is also the ERAS Coordinator at St. Martha's Regional Hospital in Antigonish, NS. She is a past member of the ORNAC Standards Committee, past Chair of the Nominations Committee, and Past President of ORNAC (2015-2017 and 2019-2021).



When I took on the ORNAC President position, in 2019, I knew it would be a challenge. But who would ever have dreamed that Covid-19 would happen and that the world as we knew it would change. I am so proud of each and every perioperative nurse that stepped up to the challenge, adapted, and provided safe & compassionate care during these difficult times. I have never been prouder to be a Canadian perioperative nurse.

During this difficult time I tried to follow the famous words of Winston Churchill... "keep calm and carry on." I am proud of what the ORNAC team was able to accomplish and I appreciate all of their hard work over the last 2 years.

It has been an honour and a privilege to have served as President of ORNAC and I am grateful for the support of my many colleagues on the ORNAC Board & Executive. A special thanks to Chris Downey, for stepping up as our new volunteer Executive Director. She has been my lifeline. And to Kim McLennan-Robbins for taking on Conference Manager role and heading up our inaugural virtual conference.

Thank you for the opportunity to have served. I have learned far more than I have been able to share and have an undying respect for everything you do in the care of your patients.

My absolute best wishes to each of you and to our incoming President Sharon Hollett. 🌟

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cathleen Ferguson".

INCOMING 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.



president@ornac.ca

My first ORNAC National Conference was in Winnipeg in 2003. I was very new to perioperative nursing and was amazed to see the great number of delegates that attended. The speakers and topics were informative. The vendor hall was interactive and felt huge. Networking and making new alliances from across Canada was so valuable. And the fun that we had after hours! Every two years, for decades, ORNAC members from across Canada have gathered together to celebrate our profession. But this year conference was remarkably different. I am proud to say ORNAC's first ever virtual conference was a resounding success!

It is no easy task to change the format of a conference, in the middle of planning, from an in person event to a high quality online virtual one. But our National Conference Planning Committee did exactly that. Work is already underway for ORNAC's 28th National Conference in 2023. Everything learned during this event will help with future conference planning.

The last issue (March 2021) of the ORNAC Journal contained an important article written by Gloria Stephens about our early nurse leaders. This article reminded me of the strong foundation that ORNAC is still building on. It is my goal to ensure ORNAC remains true to its roots while adapting for the future. I look forward as serving as your President for the next two years and ask you to feel free to reach out to me at any time. 🌟

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Hollett".