
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Happy Year of the Nurse! 2020 has officially been designated the Year of the Nurse/Midwife and we are all so proud to be part of such a prestigious profession dating back to 1860 when Florence Nightingale opened the first school of nursing at St. Thomas' Hospital in London, England. While many things have changed, since 1860, some things have not. Nurses today are, as they were in Nightingale's time, very aware of the environment they work in and the effect it has on their patients. Nurses now, as then, continue to serve at the forefront of advocating for patients and supporting families in times of crisis and ill health, for promoting cleanliness and healthy lifestyles, and for ensuring patient dignity in illness and in death. Bravo and thank you all for everything you do!

Change as an organization is, however, once more upon us and, as Winston Churchill is quoted to have said, "There is nothing wrong with change... if it is in the right direction." The right direction is the key to ORNAC's future and, as your association President, I want to inform you that our members will now manage both the operations and the governance of ORNAC to be a fully nurse-led organization. We will no longer use an association management company as we will rely on volunteers

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for all aspects of the corporation. We are grateful to Heather Dow, Pamela Lyons, Meredith Slack, and the support team at Events and Management Plus, for the work and support given to our organization over the last 4½ years. They helped strengthen our association but we now feel the need to take the reins again.

ORNAC remains strong and, with the support of its membership and its dedicated Board and Executive as well as key professionals hired to handle elements like the website and the Journal, we will make this change as seamless as possible. The transition took place on February 1st and if you have any questions or concerns now, or as we proceed forward with our new business model, please do not hesitate to contact us at info@ornac.ca.

Our AGM & Education day will be held this year in Toronto, ON. We look forward to a strong turnout of ORNAC members, either in person or

electronically (we will provide a link, closer to the time, for those interested in joining remotely). Every member voice is important and your involvement helps determine the future path of your association. Please stay tuned to the website for more details.

On behalf of the ORNAC Executive and Board I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your dedication to perioperative nursing and your continued support of ORNAC as the voice of perioperative nursing in Canada. Remember this is your association and your support and involvement helps keep it strong and relevant. I encourage you to consider getting involved as a volunteer Board or Committee member on one of our Pillar committees. 🌟

Cathleen Ferguson