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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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**S**pring. One word that brings so much hope, promise and new beginnings. I hope wherever you are spring has arrived after a very long cold winter that seemed it would last all year.

The arrival of spring reminded me that I have been on this adventure for a year now. It feels much longer as so many things have happened. I thought I would take a few moments to look back over the past year for ORNAC.

I made a number of commitments at the start of my term. I committed to encouraging membership engagement and participation in ORNAC. This was the goal behind a member survey, sent to all members in April, requesting input prior to ORNAC's strategic planning session. This session took place in May and I will share the results of this important plan for ORNAC's future in my next message.

Holding our AGM on the Road, in years when we do not host a national conference, has provided another great way to engage with members. This year's AGM was in Richmond, BC, in May and was accessible to all members via web conferencing. The AGM was also accompanied by an exciting education program. Our travelling AGM will bring future ORNAC AGMs to different parts of the country and the on-line access will further encourage member engagement with ORNAC.

*Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible.*

*- Saint Francis of Assisi*

Inspiring and encouraging teamwork on the Board was also one of my commitments. At the May Board Meeting we included a teamwork session for all Board Members. This set the stage as the board headed in to the strategic planning session the following day with their new teamwork strategies fresh in their minds. Only great things can be achieved when we work as a team.

To support ORNAC's sustainability we have implemented several cost-cutting measures. It is crucial that your Board and Executive are fiscally responsible with your finances. The financial report was presented at the AGM and posted on the website to ensure full transparency from your Board and Executive. Visit [www.ORNAC.ca](http://www.ORNAC.ca) to review this report and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

The ORNAC Journal is now available to members in electronic format as well as in print. Going forward and transitioning, in the future, to a solely on-line version of the journal will ultimately save our association significant costs involved in printing and

mailing the current journal. It will also bring us in line with modern publishing approaches as utilized by many associations. Visit the member portion of the website to view this electronic journal and see how easy it is to view and use.

As I start the second year of my term I will continue to work on fulfilling my commitments to the members. Meeting these goals will require the involvement of you, the membership, to help ORNAC fulfil its mission and vision. United we can do the impossible!

As we continue planning for the 2019 National Conference, in Halifax, NS, we are reaching out to all members to submit abstracts, volunteer, or register to attend. I am excited, and hope you all are too, about this awesome conference and look forward to seeing you there next year. In the meantime, enjoy spring and take time to reflect, rejuvenate, and refresh all areas of your life. 🍁

*Barbara Mushayandebvu RN CPN(C)*