
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Heather Dow, CAE, CPhT, ORNAC Executive Director
executivedirector@ornac.ca



Have you had the chance to view the photos taken at the 25th ORNAC National Conference that was held April 30 - May 4, 2017 at the Scotiabank Convention Centre, in Niagara Falls, ON? We certainly captured and embraced our theme “Harnessing Our Power”! If you have not yet looked through the albums be sure to check them out, and relive the excitement, at www.ornac.ca/en/home-return and clicking on “Conference Photos” under the “Home” tab. You might see a photo of yourself!

Some of my favourites include those taken during the social events – the Great Gatsby Banquet on Monday night or the Members’ Appreciation evening at Table Rock on Wednesday evening. Experiencing the Journey Behind the Falls enforced the power of our Conference theme. You could feel the thunderous vibrations of the Horseshoe falls long before you could see them; while descending 150 feet and exploring 130-year-old tunnels through the bedrock. Yes, it was really cool. Shout out to Angela Russell, Social Event Chair, for arranging such fantastic off-site opportunities.

I appreciated how the events were summarized and captured in the daily

news that was available on the conference app. It was fun to relive those memories only a few hours after they happened! Thank you Michelle Romanyshyn, Public Relations Chair, for putting together those communiques in the wee hours of the morning.

The education was top notch and I know that we will all truly cherish the session “Using Perseverance to Develop the ORNAC Standards” as presented by Muriel Shewchuk and Gloria Stephens. This was the last session that Muriel presented prior to her passing on May 11, 2017. Muriel was an original team member for the first ORNAC Standards document and chaired the first official ORNAC Conference in Jasper, AB. For all of us who spoke to Muriel, thanked her, and hugged her, we will hold those memories in our hearts forever. Thank you to Sarah Pelletier and Cindy Fulmore, Program & Syllabus Chairs, for putting together a robust educational program that was tailored to all levels of interest.

I would encourage all of you to visit the sponsor section of the website to become familiar with all our sponsors and exhibitors who contributed to the success of the conference. Without industry support we would be unable to hold the conference, to provide the

ORNAC Journal to the members, or afford the translation of materials. Thank you to Gloria Nemecek for liaising with the sponsors over the many months leading up to the conference.

As a volunteer-based organization ORNAC relies our members to share their time and expertise. Volunteerism, working together and sharing insights, are central to the ways our profession works to advance our vision, mission and goals. Volunteering is also a great way to enhance your own personal networks. Fostering relationships with your peers can lead to new contacts and opportunities. My gratitude to Jane MacDonald, Volunteer Chair, for directing the 34 volunteers with a high degree of organization and effectiveness that resulted in a flawless execution.

Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee (led by Kim McLennan-Robbins & Linda Whyte), our sponsors and exhibitors, ORNAC Past President Cathleen Ferguson, the ORNAC leadership, all of our speakers, volunteers, and conference staff at Events & Management Plus and, most especially, to all of YOU who attended. If it were not for you, it would have been a very quiet event!

Save the date for the 26th ORNAC National Conference, April 26 – April 30, 2019, Tides of Change, Oceans of Perioperative Excellence, at the Halifax Convention Centre in Halifax, NS. 🍁

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