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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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## Building the ORNAC Team



People in every organization talk about “building the team”, “working as a team”, and “my team” but few understand how to create the experience of teamwork or how to develop an effective team. Belonging to a team involves feeling part of something larger than yourself and it has a lot to do with having an understanding of the mission or objectives of your organization.

In a team-oriented environment everyone contributes to the overall success of the organization. Even though you have a specific job function in one area of the organization – be it the Board, a committee or in a general volunteer role – you are connected with other members in order to accomplish the overall objectives. The bigger picture drives your actions and your actions serve the bigger picture.

From the ORNAC strategic planning process, begun two years ago, to the restructuring of ORNAC and alignment with the new Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, the work was handled by a very specific team in the form of the ORNAC Board of Directors. ORNAC is now entering a new phase in its restructuring and must broaden the scope of the team in order to continue to be effective.

How can we achieve this goal? First we must, as an organization, set clear expectations. All team members must understand why the team was created

and what its goals are. ORNAC must be consistent in its purpose and support the team with the necessary resources of people, time, and money. The work of the team needs to be prioritized in terms of the Board of Directors’ time, discussion, attention and interest.

It is important to put the next steps of the implementation of the new ORNAC structure into context. Members of the ORNAC Team must understand why they are participating in the organization and how, together, we can build a future that supports patient safety, enables best practice in perioperative care, and strengthens the profession of perioperative registered nurses. Every team member is important to ORNAC. Every ORNAC member has a role to play in the achievement of the organization's goals, mission, vision and values.

As ORNAC moves forward we look to all members for their commitment to the future of this association. Now is the time to get involved in fulfilling the ORNAC mission and expected outcomes. Your service is valuable – not just to ORNAC but also to your own career growth and development. By working on ORNAC projects you will develop new networks, experience new ideas, and become involved in learning about the decision-making and governance processes. I am excited and challenged by this new phase and look forward to welcoming all of you on to the ORNAC Team. ✨

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