
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Karen Frenette, RN, BN, MN, CPN(C), ORNAC President is the Surgical Suite Nurse Manager at Chaleur Regional Hospital, Bathurst, NB, a part time instructor for the University of New Brunswick Faculty of Nursing, Bathurst Campus, and the past Chair of the ORNAC Research Committee.



Autumn is my favorite time of year. The abundance of Fall colours and smells fill the air. September is the month when, following a summer slowdown, full schedules begin anew. Children return to school and structure returns to the household. This is also the time when annual membership drives begin for most provincial perioperative associations.

Florence Nightingale once said, “There is no magic in the word association... We must never forget that the ‘individual’ makes the association. What the association is depends on its members. A nurse’s association can never be a substitute for the individual nurse. It is she who must, each in her own measure, give life to the association while the association helps her.”

Get involved! It is the perioperative nurses that make ORNAC what it is. Perioperative nurses have a wealth of knowledge and expertise but often much of it is kept in isolation or held within an individual’s healthcare facility. Sharing this knowledge, and contributing to your perioperative association, is something of immeasurable value. ORNAC offers many opportunities for involvement. Formalize your internal studies and share information with perioperative nurses from across the country. Submit an article to this Journal. While the Journal has received a recent facelift the content is still only as strong as the submissions received. Perioperative nurses across the country, and beyond, benefit when we share our experiences through the Journal!

Funding is also available to support research studies through ORNAC. Visit www.ornac.ca for details and application forms. Let us put Canadian perioperative nurses, and their innovations and studies, on the world forum. There are also numerous other awards available through ORNAC so nominate a deserving perioperative nurse!

I encourage you to become involved in your provincial perioperative association -- and through it to become involved in ORNAC. Plans for the 2013 ORNAC/IFPN International Conference in Ottawa are now kicking into high gear. Make plans to attend this exciting perioperative event in Canada’s capital.

This will truly be the first international ORNAC conference. Representatives from the International Federation of Perioperative Nurses (IFPN) have been involved, along with the ORNAC Conference Planning committee, in all stages of conference planning. The program will be rich in Canadian and international flavor with presentations from various speakers from around the world. This will provide the opportunity to network with your international colleagues. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity in our own backyard! Keep up to date with the conference plans by visiting the ORNAC website.

The transition of ORNAC into its new and revitalized structure, as discussed in my previous messages, continues. This is both an exciting and a challenging time as change, even when necessary, brings forth many unanswered questions. The pillars that support the ORNAC structure are beginning to function in the intended manner. The ORNAC Fall Board meeting will also work within this new structure with pillar members working together to report on and plan for the work of ORNAC. I will continue to provide updates as ORNAC implements the strategic plan. This is your association – be aware and get involved for the benefit of the perioperative nursing profession! ✨

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Frenette". The signature is fluid and cursive.

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