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President's Message

'The difficulty lies, not in the new ideas, but in escaping from the old ones'
Keynes, 1935, cited by Dzik-Jurasz, 2006

Many of us are creatures of habit. We prefer the comforts of the predictable to the discomforts of the strange: the route we drive to work, the stores we shop at, the parking spot we select. We tolerate change but we'd like it to be on our own terms. But, change is almost constant in the "new normal" state of life, and there is no escaping it.

In the President's message, March 2010, I asked each ORNAC member to connect with their local, provincial, and/or national perioperative groups and share opinions/ideas for future changes of the association. The opinions/ideas/critical reviews/etc. will be a vital component of the strategic meeting of the ORNAC Executive and representatives from each province scheduled for late August in Ottawa. This meeting is a proactive decision and will provide the opportunity for innovative change to enhance our association. Also, I am hopeful that a synergy between all facets of ORNAC: individual perioperative nurses, the provinces and the association as a whole, will be a second outcome as the development of effective relationships with all team members is key to "implementing" effective change.[1]

Please refer to the ORNAC in a Nutshell, provided by ORNAC Secretary Sue Styles, from the May 2010 Board meeting (see pg 26) for an overview of the activities and accomplishments of your association. As outlined, I have participated in a variety of national and international meetings with our global perioperative nursing partners. I have noticed that the associations and organizations, ORNAC included, provide the forum for collective interactions that can overcome nursing care challenges. This will continue to be a priority for ORNAC while we reflect on the significance of ORNAC today, and determine the direction of tomorrow.

Of course, I offer a challenge to each of you as the "essence" of ORNAC. If all perioperative nurses choose to unite and benefit from collective interactions, and the power of an association, we can move the group in the direction that we want. I ask you to contemplate the foundation of ORNAC: the philosophy and the mission, vision, and value statements as you respond to the questions: "What's in it for me?", "What's in it for us?" and, more importantly, "What's in it for our patients?"

I welcome your comments and can be reached at **president@ORNAC.ca.**

Wishes for health and happiness to you.

Bonnie W. McLeod

References
1. 1. Dzik-Jurasz, Debbie, (2006). Supporting Sustainable Change. *Nursing Management*, 13 (4), p. 26-29.

Bonnie W. McLeod, RN, BScN, MN, CPN(C), is Clinical Nurse Educator - Perioperative, Fraser Health Authority, Ridge Meadows Hospital site, the ORNAC representative on the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, and the past Chair of the ORNAC Standards committee.