

# IT'S THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST INFECTION. IRONICALLY, IT'S ALSO THE SOURCE.

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It's the patient's own skin. During a procedure, blood and serum diminish the antimicrobial effect of traditional paint and scrub. This can lead to a surgical site infection. That's why there's ChloroPrep®.

**Help stop infection before you start surgery with ChloroPrep®.**

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- **PROVEN** in 36 published studies as best practice for helping reduce the risk of infection
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**ChloroPrep®**  
Patient Preoperative Skin Preparation  
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& 70% Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA)  
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For further information, please contact your Surgical Specialist at 905.417.6874.

## President's Message

*It's not so much that we're afraid of change or so in love with the old ways, but it's that place in between that we fear ....It's like being between trapezes. It's Linus when his blanket is in the dryer. There's nothing to hold on to.*

Marilyn Ferguson, American futurist

As we progress quickly through 2010 I am reminded of the saying "the past is a prologue to the future." Knowing where we've come from, and where we're going, is essential if we are going to actually get anywhere.

The agenda for the 2009 Fall board meeting of the ORNAC executive and provincial representatives was guided by the key issues that ORNAC is facing, both now and in the future: membership structure; interprofessional relationships; and national conference planning.

As I contemplated these issues and what the future holds for ORNAC, I believe that knowing where we are is a vital part of the planning involved in moving the association toward the future and facing the potential challenges in today's health care practice environment. During my subsequent research on NurseONE ([www.nurseone.ca](http://www.nurseone.ca)) I discovered the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) action guide for nurses — "Improve Your Practice Environment"\* — that is available to help nurses create and maintain healthy work environments. Indicators of a successful change process, provided on the website's "Get Started" page, are elements that the ORNAC board will strive to achieve and maintain:

- Committed leadership;
- Shared vision and values;
- Team approach;
- Clearly defined scope and objectives;
- Outcomes link to organizational goals;
- Plan with clear timelines, goals and measureable outcomes;
- Ongoing, open communication about progress; and
- Learning through ongoing reflection.<sup>1</sup>

The action guide also lists evaluation as an important step in the change process. This creative, and rewarding, process requires

the commitment of everyone involved.

I ask each ORNAC member to participate in this process by getting involved with their local, provincial, and national perioperative association. Share your opinions about what is working within ORNAC and we'll all have a clearer idea of where ORNAC needs to go.

I welcome your comments, ideas, questions and critique — I can be reached at [president@ornac.ca](mailto:president@ornac.ca).

My best wishes for your health and happiness in 2010 and beyond.



*Bonnie W. McLeod*

1. Canadian Nurses Association (CNA). (2009). *Improve Your Practice Environment: CNA's Action Guide for Nurses*. Retrieved December 15, 2009, from [http://ex.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=507&Itemid=472&lang=en](http://ex.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=507&Itemid=472&lang=en)

\* The action guide *Improve Your Practice Environment* was developed under the leadership of the Canadian Nurses Association with the support of nurses across Canada and other health-care partners. Much of the content of this action guide has been adapted from *Making a Measurable Difference: Evaluating Quality of Work Life Interventions* by Graham S. Lowe

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