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President's Message

Spring has arrived here in Victoria, BC! I trust you all had a safe winter and are looking forward to the fresh start each spring brings. Here in Victoria the final touches are being put in place for next month's 20th National ORNAC Conference. It is a very exciting, and exhausting, time for everyone involved.

ORNAC thrives because of the strength of its volunteers and the enthusiasm they bring to every project. Thank you again to everyone who has contributed to this conference and to ORNAC conferences in the past. We couldn't do it without you.

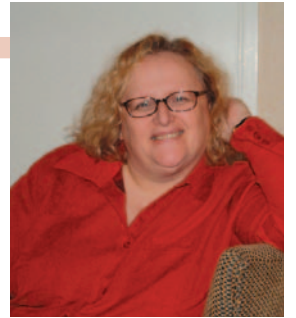
The 20th National promises to be an interesting conference that showcases many new ideas and features many firsts! It is the first time that the International Federation of Perioperative Nurses (IFPN) will be participating in an ORNAC conference and holding their board meeting in conjunction with the event. ORNAC will welcome visitors from England, Wales, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Papua, New Guinea, and more!

ORNAC has been continuing to work toward the incorporation of the association. It also continues to build strong relationships with a wide range of groups including the Canadian Nursing Association, Canadian Council on Hospital Services Accreditation, Canadian OR Leaders, the Registered Nurse First Assistant Network of Canada, and various industry partners.

The support that our organization receives from its industry partners is a vital part of this organization's ability to grow, and gives our members advantages such as bursaries, grants, and awards. We also have special projects in the works, that involve our industry partners, such as translations services and upcoming special editions of our Journal. Further details will follow in future issues of this journal and on the ORNAC website.

In order for ORNAC to continue to grow and succeed we must carefully evaluate the way we do business and look to our plans for the future. We are now working with various consultants to assist us with the

business of ORNAC. In the coming months, and at the National Conference, we will share developments on the new journey that we are embarking on.



I cannot stress enough the importance of belonging to an organization like ORNAC. The Registered Nurse in today's perioperative environment needs to be involved in his/her professional organization. If we do not take charge of our own profession, and help shape our own practice, then someone else will!

My involvement with this association has opened my eyes to the possibilities that exist. As a group we have everything we need to make a difference in nursing. We can impact on so many facets of our practice. So, the question remains for all of us to ask ourselves: Do we want to lead, or do we want to be lead by others?

There is a leader hiding in all of us, and I encourage you to get to know that person! Be a leader for yourself, and for others, in your pursuit of excellence in patient care and in perioperative registered nursing practice. You can make a difference in your patients' lives. These are exciting times in perioperative nursing. I am honoured to have been a part of it. ✨

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads 'Marcy McKay'.

Marcy McKay, RN CPN(C), is President of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada. She is a staff nurse at Victoria, General Hospital, Victoria BC, and is currently the Conference Co-Chair for ORNAC National 2007 in Victoria, BC.