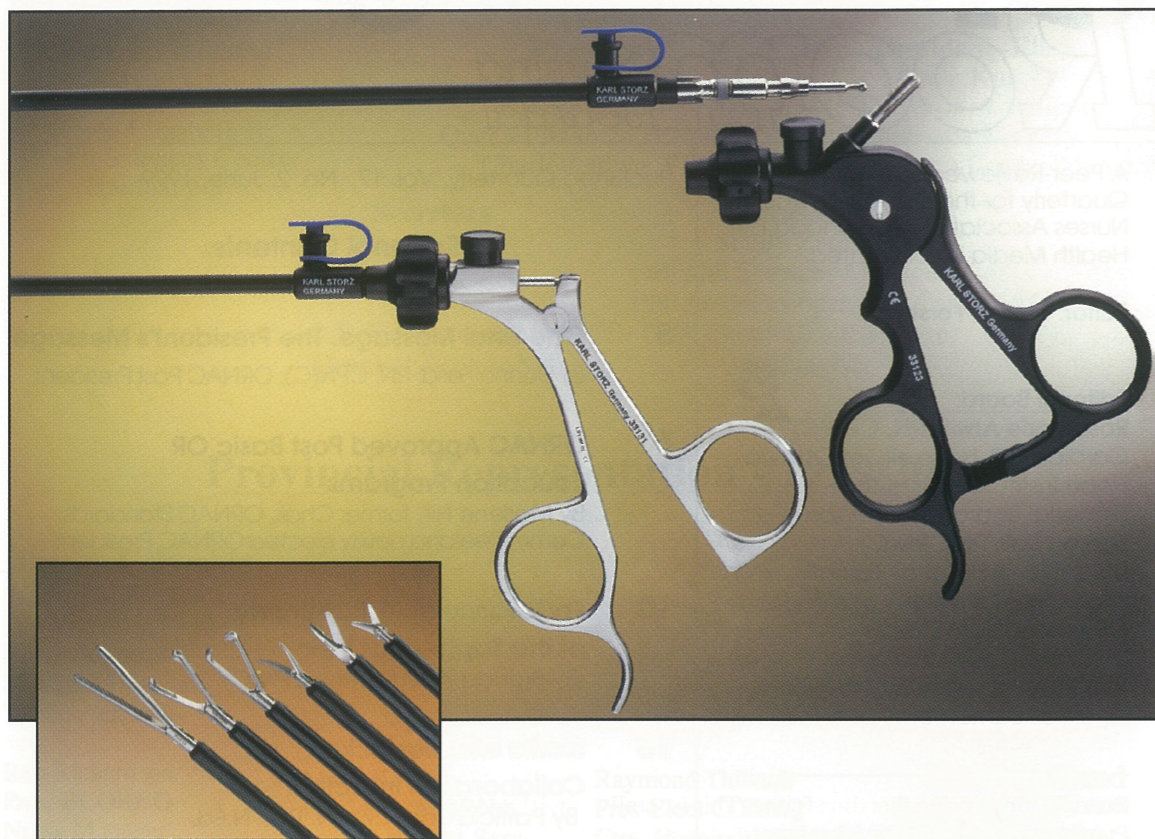


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One Final Message

By Donna Farid, RN, PGOR, CPN(C)

It seems strange to be writing this message as President of ORNAC, knowing that when it is published in the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal* my term of office will be finished.

The 16th National ORNAC Conference in Halifax, which I am chairing, will be behind us as well. I hope when those of you who attended the Conference are reading this back in your home provinces, you will have been enlightened, inspired, and will have a renewed commitment to become involved in promoting the role of the Perioperative Registered Nurse. I hope you will share this information and inspiration with your nursing colleagues who were unable to attend, and will encourage them to join you in your campaign. I also hope you will have found lasting memories of Halifax and the Maritimes.

Many accomplishments have been realized during the last two years. Some of these were initiated before I started my term, and some were introduced and came to fruition during that time frame. This is totally due to the commitment and dedication of the Board and Executive members of ORNAC. It never ceases to amaze me that a group of Perioperative Registered Nurses, most of whom are employed full time, and most of whom are Presidents or Presidents Elect of their provincial associations, commit so much time and hard work to ORNAC on a voluntary basis.

Some of these accomplishments are: publishing the promotional pamphlet "Perioperative Registered Nurses Care for You", which will serve to assist nurses in promoting our role to the public and other stakeholders; the conversion of the song and tapes of "Because You Care" into a video, including pictures of perioperative nurses at work from all across the country; the completion of a Strategic Plan, a tool which will serve ORNAC well into the future upon annual review and priority setting; the development of a Research Grant to be offered for perioperative nursing research projects which meet specific criteria developed and judged by the Research Committee; the ORNAC web site, which just keeps getting better; the inclusion of the Journal in most provincial memberships; and, the commitment to join the newly

formed International Federation of Perioperative Nurses, with the ORNAC President becoming a Board Member.

There has been room for expressions of diverse points of view. The democratic process prevailed as issues were determined by vote and consensus, and we moved on to other matters of importance to ORNAC. This shows great strength of character and motivation to do what is best for ORNAC and all its members.

I owe a debt of gratitude to each member of the Executive for their support and cooperation. I have every confidence that ORNAC is in excellent hands with Marlene Hill as President. Her capacity for hard work and dedication has been demonstrated many times over in her past roles on the ORNAC Board and Executive.

Vija Hay has contributed tremendously to ORNAC for many years, and was a generous mentor to me at the beginning of my term as President. She will be best remembered as a great ambassador for ORNAC at the International level. Shelly Zareski will be serving another term as a very able and conscientious Treasurer, and Corina Balcom has shown her capacity for hard work and commitment in her two terms as Secretary.

During my term as Past President on the ORNAC Executive, I will endeavor to fulfill this role to the best of my ability, and will continue to work together with all members of ORNAC as we enter a new century.

Please join your ORNAC representatives in "Promoting Excellence", supporting each other and endeavoring to ensure the highest form of surgical patient advocacy - the continued care of qualified Perioperative Registered Nurses. ■



Donna Farid is the Immediate Past President of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada. She is Staff RN, Cardiovascular Surgery, Queen Elizabeth II Health Science Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia.