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## ORNAC's National Conference

By Vija Hay, RN, CPN (C)

1997 seems to be a favored year for major conferences in Canada. Next year will provide many educational opportunities for nurses, but it will also present a dilemma as to how many conferences and which conferences to attend.

The conferences of interest to perioperative nurses are: ORNAC's National Conference in Ottawa in April; ICN's Conference in Vancouver in June; and the World Conference of OR Nurses in Toronto in September. (Continued page 6)



**ORNAC Board 1996-97.** (Front Row l to r) Corina Balcom, Donna Farid, Vija Hay, Marlene Hill and Jackie Waisman. (Middle l to r) Faye Meuser, Sandra Poirier, Judi Tyndall, Dahlia Robinson, Paula Dyer, Sandra Grimwood, Monique Perazzelli, Josette Forest, Marla Ewen, Gloria Nemecek, Karen Steindel. (Back Row l to r) Nora Slater, Sharon Ball, Sheila Billard, Lil Budden, Margaret Farley, Carolyn Hughes, Lyn Thorne, Shelly Zareski & Shirley Thorn.

**ORNAC Executive** (Photo above - Front row, l to r) Donna Farid (Pres-Elect), Vija Hay (President), Marlene Hill (Treasurer). (Back Row l to r) Corina Balcom (Secretary), Jackie Waisman (Past-President)





The Health Sciences Centre, an 850 bed tertiary health care facility, affiliated with the University of Manitoba, is committed to providing high quality patient care with an interdisciplinary, team oriented structure. The Centre is currently recruiting for the following position:

## **Unit Manager - Adult Operating Room Competition #53315 PERMANENT/ FULL-TIME**

The Unit Manager is a co-equal member of a Patient Care Team and reports to the Director of Patient Services, Surgery. The Unit Manager is responsible for managing and directing all Adult Operating Room Services (including Nursing, Anesthesia, Surgery, Respiratory Therapists, Perfusionists, and multi-skilled workers) 24 hours a day. Responsibilities of the position include the day-to-day management of all OR resources including human, financial, equipment, space, supplies and environmental issues.

Requirements include: Degree in an appropriate Healthcare Profession (eg. Nursing, Medicine or Administrative studies). Three years of current Operating Room experience and a minimum of one year of management experience in Healthcare. Eligibility for registration with the appropriate professional association is required.

Interested applicants should apply in writing to: **Nurse Recruiter, Human Resources, HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRE, 60 Pearl Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 1K2. FAX: (204) 787-1376.**

### **President's Message - continued from page 5**

Each conference has individual features and benefits for delegates, each is unique in itself. Obviously the ORNAC Conference is the main event for our Association and Canadian perioperative nurses, and has an impact on the continued operation of ORNAC. The success of the conference depends on many factors, but largely on delegate and exhibitor support.

Let me provide you with some information as to the process of bringing a conference to you. The ORNAC Conference is held every two years. Provinces wishing to host a National Conference apply to ORNAC Board as many as 10 years in advance. Booking of convention facilities is done as soon as a host city is determined. Contracts with facilities and companies are signed several years in advance. This involves financial commitment at various stages. The conference planning committee begins work at least two years in advance. Planning a conference of this magnitude is a major commitment for ORNAC and the volunteer group of perioperative nurses who donate a tremendous amount of time and energy to bring this event about.

One of ORNAC's objectives is to promote educational programs. The conference certainly fills that mandate. Not only does it give the unique opportunity to keep up to date with professional and clinical developments in the OR, but it also provides a forum to share concerns, issues and visions for the future of our specialty practice. As well, there is opportunity to dialogue with Board and Executive of ORNAC.

In this climate of rapid change in the health care system, as well as technology, it is crucial to participate, learn, dialogue and network.

Donna Farid and I attended CNA's Biennial Convention in June. It was evident that nurses recognize the importance of today's issues and future directions. Over 1000 nurses from across Canada attended the conference, the largest number since 1982.

I hope it is possible for you to attend all these conferences in 1997, to participate and network on a national as well as a global basis. Foremost I encourage you to join us at **ORNAC's National Conference in Ottawa, April 28 - May 2nd, 1997.**

Vija Hay, R.N., C.P.N. (C), is the President of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada. She was most recently Director of Nursing Services, Queensway Carleton Hospital, Nepean, Ontario.

## **Call For Nominations**

# **ORNAC Elections - April, 1997**

### **Dates to Remember:**

#### **September, 1996**

ORNAC Executive and Board members have an eligibility list and nomination forms available.

#### **November 30, 1996**

Nomination form must be received by the Chair of the Nomination Committee.

#### **December 30, 1996**

Nominee acceptance deadline.

#### **March, 1997**

Nominee portfolios to be published in the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal*.

#### **April 27, 1997**

Election of ORNAC Executive at the National Conference in Ottawa.

#### **June, 1997**

Election results published in the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal*.

Should you have any questions regarding the election and/or process please contact your Provincial ORNAC Board Member, ORNAC Executive Member or myself. I can be reached at:

130 Welton Crescent  
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 6B3  
Ph. (403) 347-6420 or Fax (403) 340-1355

The Nomination Committee is anxious to hear from you!

**Jackie Waisman**  
**Past President ORNAC**  
**Chair - Nomination Committee**

As the dates of the next ORNAC National Conference quickly approach us, it is once again time to prepare for the elections of the ORNAC Executive.

Following past practice, the election will take place during the ORNAC Spring Board meeting on April 27, 1997. The Nomination Committee is anticipating a number of nominees this election year and therefore encourage each of you to be in touch with your Provincial ORNAC Board Members or ORNAC Executive Members (they are listed in this journal - see page 2) to review the eligibility criteria and those eligible to be nominated for an ORNAC Executive position.

Your current ORNAC Executive and Board members have the nomination form required to be completed in the election process.

As you make nomination choices, please consider the many Operating Room Registered Nurses across Canada who will be represented by those elected to the ORNAC Executive. We need someone who is committed to those nurses and the objectives of ORNAC. We need someone who has the time for many volunteer hours that are required to make this organization thrive. Those being nominated need to know that OR Nurses across Canada will support them as they meet the many challenges of health care today and tomorrow! They need to know this is about being a team and reaching out for each other every day!

The election in April, 1997 will fill the positions of President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. As most of you are aware the current President-Elect assumes the position of President and the current President assumes the responsibilities of the Past President.