

# President's Message

As the Christmas season fast approaches, our lives rapidly become a blur of running from one task to another. The holiday season is also a time for reflection, when we focus on where we have come from and where we will be going. At a meeting of the executive of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada held in Toronto recently, we did just that - we took a long, hard look at what the association has accomplished, and the direction that will be taken in the future.

## ORNAC accomplishments

In the short time since ORNAC became a reality, a great deal has been accomplished:

- our bylaws have been ratified and are in the process of being translated;
- the creation and publication of two major documents has been achieved: "Recommended Standards for Operating Room Nursing Practice," and "Recommended Technical Standards." These two publications are available in English and French;
- an approval process has been agreed upon for operating room educational programs;
- the development of the position statement on operating room experience in basic nursing education which was presented to the Canadian Nurses Association (CNA) in June, 1988;
- the development of the position statement on staffing the operating room. This statement is to be sent to the CNA, to each provincial operating room nurse's association and interest group;
- the initiation of a "Rules and Regulation" book for ORNAC board members.

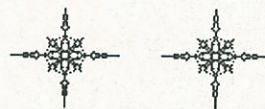
However great the accomplishments of ORNAC, we still have a number of important goals to strive for in the future. These will be listed and a priority assigned to each. Understandably, these goals will

be considered and approved by the ORNAC board members at our Spring, 1989 meeting in Toronto. Following approval, there will be a report in this column to outline our established priorities.

## Common goals

In the meantime, I suggest the following common goals:

- 1. To share** - We have created a network which provides all operating room nurses in Canada with a wonderful opportunity to share common interests, concerns and achievements. Let us call on each other's talents, while at the same time sharing our own.
- 2. To strive** - We constantly strive to improve patient care through our nursing practice. We try to measure up to the standards we have set for ourselves and to achieve a higher level of professionalism. We must never cease to strive and seek wider horizons.
- 3. To love** - This goal, not to be misconstrued with the word "mushy," is meant in the true sense of caring for each other, our patients, our colleagues and ourselves. To quote from a former president of the American Operating Room Nurses Association, "to disagree does not mean to dislike." We can have our differences but still be friends and care. Take the time to care for yourself, as only then can you begin to be of value to others. If we share, strive and love, we will go a long way toward making 1989 a year to remember.



Season's Best Wishes,

Joan Donald  
President, ORNAC



December, 1988

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