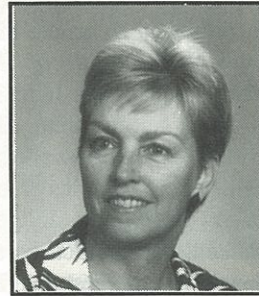


# President's Report



**Joan Donald**  
President, ORNAC

## To All Operating Room Nurses in Canada:

As incoming president of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC), I wish to extend greetings to all association members and readers of the Journal.

The year 1988 has been a most productive year. Considering what has been accomplished since the formal inception of the association a half a decade ago (1983), we can all look forward to an even more interesting and eventful future as operating room nurses in Canada.

In order to keep you up-to-date on the activities of ORNAC at the national level, I thought it would be fitting to introduce your new executive. I would first like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the items of interest that originated from our last board meeting which took place May 29th in Vancouver, B.C., during the national conference.

### • Technical standards

The "Recommended Technical Standards," an adjunct to the already published "Recommended Standards for Operating Room Nursing Practice," (June, 1986) has been completed. This important 114-page document, which took two years to compile, is available in English (and shortly in French). It is \$20.00. Readers are asked to see page 36 for details on ordering.

The members of the ORNAC Technical Standards Committee are to be commended for the huge amount of work, sacrifice and professionalism that went into the creation of these standards.

### • Awards presentations

The first recipient of the Isabelle Adams Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing was selected by the ORNAC 'Awards Committee.' We congratulate

Gloria Stephens, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver, for being the 1988 recipient of this award.

Chosen winner the 'Surgikos Editorial Award' for 1987 was Mary Kubaseiwicz, Seven Oaks Hospital, Winnipeg, Manitoba. She was the recipient of \$2,500 and a commemorative plaque by Surgikos Canada Inc. in a ceremony during the Vancouver National Conference. Her winning editorial submission(s) can be found in the *Canadian Operating Room Nursing Journal*, Volume 5, Number 2, April, 1987, and Volume 5, Number 4, September, 1987.

### • ORNAC position statements

In the future, the ORNAC executive and board will no doubt be called upon to take various positions of a philosophical, moral and professional nature. At our last national board meeting (May 29, Vancouver), two position papers were developed:

1. That ORNAC will be seeking CNA (Canadian Nurses Association) endorsement for operating room experience in basic nursing education programs.
2. That there will be minimum staffing requirements in the operating room: two registered nurses, one of whom must circulate. This position paper will be sent out to all the provinces.

### Other topics under discussion include:

- operating room nurses as first assistants
- narcotic handling in the operating room
- consideration of lay persons being trained to replace the operating room nurse in the Province of Ontario. Operating room nurses across Canada

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have been asked to report to the national executive should they hear of a similar movement in their province or region.

### Past executive members

The outgoing ORNAC executive members were honoured for their contributions, accomplishments and commitment to operating room nursing in Canada during their tenure. These past executive members are:

- **Valerie Shirreff**, Mississauga Hospital, Ontario (President, 1983 - 1986)  
(Past-president 1986 - 1988)
- **Dorothy Orr**, Brooks Health Centre, Alberta (Secretary & National Liaison, 1983 - 1988)
- **Shirley Hemerling**, Kelowna General Hospital, British Columbia (Treasurer, 1983 - 1988)
- **Sylvia Humphries**, Western Memorial Hospital, Newfoundland (Vice-president, 1986 - 1988)

### 1988 - 1990 executive officers

The new 1988 ORNAC executive can boast a collective total of close to 140 years operating room nursing practice. It is also an experienced executive, as readers will note from the brief synopsis of their backgrounds.

As president of this body, I look forward to the opportunity of working with each of them, sharing with them and learning from their unique professional and association experiences. I am also looking forward to working with the various provincial representatives that make up the ORNAC board of directors.

For reader interest, the following is an information synopsis of your new ORNAC executive:

### Joan Donald, President

Received her diploma in Nursing from the Victoria Public Hospital School of Nursing, Fredrickton, N.B., and completed post-graduate course in O.R. Technique and Management from Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal. She received her B.Sc.N. and B. Ed. from the University of Moncton as well as a Master of Arts (Education) from the same institution.

Joan has served on the ORNAC executive since its inception in 1983. She is a past executive member of the New Brunswick Operating Room Nurses

Group as well as the Nurses Union of New Brunswick. Ms. Doanld was the original chairman of the ORNAC Standards Committee and a member of the Technical Standards Committee. Currently, she is assistant D.O.N., O.R., R.R. and Day Surgery, The Moncton Hospital, N.B. She has 20 years operating room nursing experience. (Preceding synopsis inserted by Editorial Staff)



**Ann Robinson**  
Past-president

Ann has a diploma in nursing and a post-graduate course in O.R. nursing from the Health Sciences Centre, Winnipeg, Manitoba. She served as president of ORNAC from 1986 to 1988, and has been on the ORNAC executive since its inception. As well, she has served on the executive of the Quebec Operating Room Nurses Association.

Ms. Robinson sits on the educational committee for the World Operating Room nurses Conference and is currently nurse director, O.R., R.R. and day surgery, Jewish General Hospital, Montreal. Her operating room experience totals 22 years.



**Gloria Stephens**  
President-elect

Gloria obtained her diploma in nursing from the Victoria General Hospital in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She has a diploma in adult education from U.B.C., a diploma in Health Care Management and a Certificate in Personnel Management from the B.C. Institute of Technology. She has completed the Canadian Hospital Association's Nursing Unit Administration Course and has a Certificate in Program Design and Implementation. Ms. Stephens has a total of 25 years O.R. nursing experience and is currently Operating Room Instructor and Inservice Co-ordinator, St. Paul's Hospital, Vancouver.

Among numerous awards and professional accolades received by Ms. Stephens over the years was her recent selection as winner of the Isabelle Adams Award for Excellence in Perioperative Nursing. Since the inception of ORNAC in 1983, she has been active in various committees, including the National Standards and Educational Committee, which she has headed since 1986.



**Carol Lenox**  
Vice-president

Carol has a diploma in nursing from the Miami Valley Hospital School of Nursing in Dayton, Ohio and a B.Sc. in nursing from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. She is President-elect of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Ontario and Past-president of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Hamilton & District. She has served on the ORNAC Board of Directors for the past two years. Ms. Lenox has 18 years experience in operating room nursing and is currently Nurse Clinician, O.R., P.A.R., Day Surgery and Endoscopy at Mississauga Hospital.



**Muriel Shewchuk**  
Secretary

Muriel received her R.N. from the University of Alberta Hospital School of Nursing in Edmonton and her B.Sc.N. from the University of Alberta. Besides taking a post-graduate course in Operating Room Technique and Management, Ms. Shewchuk studied and received her diploma in Teaching and Supervision from the University of Alberta.

Prior to her current position as D.O.N., O.R., and P.A.R.R. at the Foothills Hospital in Calgary, she was instructor in Operating Room Post-graduate Course Technique and Management, Orthopaedic and Rehabilitative Medicine, University of Alberta Hospitals, Edmonton.

Ms. Shewchuk has held a number of executive positions with the Operating Room Nurses of Alberta, and has served as a board member of ORNAC where she has chaired a number of committees. She has over 26 years experience in operating room nursing.



**Carole Starr**  
Treasurer

Carole has a diploma from the Oshawa General Hospital and post-graduate Course Certification in Operating Room Nursing from Humber College in Toronto. She has also taken the Ontario Hospital Association's Unit Administration and Hospital Management Courses. Presently, she is taking courses towards her B.Sc. N. at the University of Ottawa.

Ms. Starr is Past-president of the Operating Room Nurses Association of Ontario and has been a member of the ORNAC Board of Directors for the past two years. Ms. Starr, with 24 years of operating room experience, is currently Unit Supervisor, Operating Room, Civic Hospital, Peterborough Ontario.

### Conclusion

The national executive will be holding its next meeting in Toronto in late October. Following this meeting, I will provide an up-date to members. Readers will also be introduced to the board of directors. These are the representatives from the provinces as selected by the various provincial memberships to represent them at the national level.

Should any operating room nurse in Canada have any questions or reason to contact the national executive, please do so through your provincial representative. These provincial representatives are periodically listed in this journal.

Sincerely,

**Joan Donald, President, ORNAC**