

President's Message – November 2025

As 2025 draws to a close, I am filled with gratitude and pride in reflecting on what has been a remarkable year for Operating Room Nurses Association of Canada (ORNAC). This success is the result of the dedication and tireless efforts of our Board of Directors and the commitment of our members across the country. Together, we have accomplished an extraordinary amount in just twelve months.

This year brought significant change and progress, beginning with the implementation of our new by-laws. This important governance update strengthens our structure, ensures clarity in our operations, and sets the stage for continued growth and sustainability. One of the most notable changes has been the inclusion of Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) and Registered Practical Nurses (RPNs) as full members of the association. This expansion reflects our commitment to inclusivity and the recognition of the vital roles all perioperative nurses play in patient care.

Our collaborative spirit also has been a defining feature of 2025. ORNAC has strengthened relationships with provincial and specialty groups and special interest organizations, creating opportunities to share expertise, align efforts, and serve perioperative nurses better nationwide. These partnerships reflect the unity of our profession and our shared commitment to patient safety, professional development, and excellence in perioperative practice.

A highlight of the year was our 29th National Conference, which brought perioperative nurses from across Canada together, to learn, share, and inspire one another. The energy and engagement at the conference were truly inspiring and I want to thank everyone who attended, presented, exhibited, and contributed to organizing the conference and making it such a success.

In addition, 2025 saw the much-anticipated release of the 17th Edition of the *ORNAC Guidelines for Perioperative Practice in Canada*. This comprehensive resource continues to be an essential reference for perioperative nurses, supporting safe, high-quality care in every setting.

We also launched multiple membership initiatives to support and engage our community further:

- membership funding incentives for referring new members;
- CNA Certification funding to encourage and support members pursuing this professional designation;
- conference education sessions and monthly webinars; and
- the release of our third issue of the open access *ORNAC Journal*.

We also have increased our social media presence significantly to reach more members, promote perioperative practice, and highlight the work of the association. Our social media campaigns have helped raise awareness of our initiatives, shared valuable educational content, and strengthened connections within our national community.

The achievements of 2025 are a direct result of the work of an engaged and motivated volunteer Board of Directors, who have given countless hours of their time and expertise to ensure ORNAC's continued success. Their dedication, combined with the enthusiasm of our members, has set us on a strong path forward.

As we look toward 2026, we encourage every member to consider ways to get involved at the national level. There are many ways to participate:

- engage with ORNAC on our multiple social media platforms;
- sign up to be a peer reviewer for the Guidelines or the Journal;
- submit an article manuscript or editorial for publication in the *ORNAC Journal*;
- attend our virtual education sessions;
- apply for funding to put toward the CNA Perioperative Nurse Certification; or
- put your name forward to serve on the Board of Directors.

Participation at the national level strengthens our profession and demonstrates leadership and pride in perioperative nursing.

I look forward to seeing many of you step forward in 2026, to help shape the future of ORNAC and our profession. Together, we will continue to grow, lead, and inspire.

Warm regards,
Tanya Vandale
President, ORNAC

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