

THE CANADIAN GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE



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BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

There are benefits of membership within our professional organizations; these provide us with the opportunities to link with local and provincial to national and international nurses all interested in the importance of health for our older adults. The opportunities provide us with the prospect to network with colleagues with similar interests, the chance to keep abreast of new and innovative approaches to care of the older adults. We then bring those ideas back to our settings, be they clinical, educational and or research, as well as use these ideas to advocate for older adults.

In reflecting on provincial and national education and research sessions in the fall, some of which are reported in this newsletter or in chapter or provincial newsletters, it is clear that there are many opportunities for nurses who work with older adults to share knowledge and means of providing excellent health care to our older adults. Membership gives us the opportunity to have a voice at the local level as well as provincially and nationally. The provincial education days have included the opportunity for you to advocate for older adults in your region. We have the opportunity to add our voices to the national ones when the Canadian Nurses Association asks for our input into topics such as Elder Abuse, the Canadian Registered Nurse Exam and the Knowledge is the Best Medicine Website Content. The number of nurses in our chapters, provinces and nationally mean we can have a strong voice when it comes to issues of concern to older adults. We work in a wide range of areas so that we bring knowledge and experience from a range of health care areas. We hope to have a subcommittee of CGNA soon for Political Advocacy and we are trying to have representation from across Canada for a subcommittee that oversees the various means by which Canadian nurses communicate with one another around concerns for older adults. If you would be interested in being involved with an area that speaks to advocacy for older adults or gerontological nurses please contact your provincial executive and CGNA, we'd love to hear from you.

It is through this type of involvement of nurses that we have added chapters to provinces and provinces to the national group within the past year. It is also this type of advocacy that has changed the membership so that RPNs and LPNs can join with full voting memberships. I would encourage you to take an active part in whatever way you can with your local associations; this includes sharing the benefits and opportunities with your colleagues and with student nurses.

When some of our chapters or provinces are wondering how to promote the benefits to potential members, it helps to review the variety of options for members. One way in which we are addressing the requests and needs of membership is through the Webinars. I am attaching a copy of some of the upcoming ones. Please note we have had requests regarding the costs to members for attending these and will be looking at this at our annual meetings in June 2012 when we are able to examine the budget and identify our options. Currently we offer them to break even, plan to hear more for 2012-2013.

WHAT IS A WEBINAR?

A webinar or web conference, allows a presenter(s) to share what's on their computer desktop with people in other locations--in real time, over the web. Participants are able to view the slides on their computer through a web program and listen to the presentation through an audio conference line. Presenters are selected based on their expertise in the field of gerontological nursing. Participants have the opportunity to ask questions on line or by telephone. For more information and to register for an upcoming webinar, we encourage you to visit our website at www.cgna.net.

Future Webinars:

DATE	TIME	TOPICS	SPEAKERS
16-Feb-12	12pm - 1pm EST	Infections in Elderly (Skin infection)	Shirin Vellani
29-Mar-12	12pm - 1pm EST	CNA Certification Preparation and Study Session	Sandra Patricia Hirst
12-Apr-12	12pm - 1pm EST	Depression and Chronic Illness	Diane Buchanan

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Buchanan RN, PhD, GNA(C) CGNA President

REPORTS FROM CGNA PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association

www.AGNA.ca

Current issues facing the Alberta provincial Gerontological Nursing Association include: The meeting with Dr. Eagle (CEO of AHS) has been postponed to March 2012. The new chapter in Fort McMurray started in November 2011. 8 people attended! In September, the south zone chapter meeting topic was on Delirium and in January 2012 the education session was from a Social Worker who promotes the use of Personal Directives, and information about the Alberta Trusteeship and Guardianship Act. Our treasurer has resigned so we are transitioning to a new one (before our March membership year begins). CNA certification prep study groups are in place in Edmonton (12 people) and Calgary (24 people); Lethbridge (6) and Red Deer (4) = 46 in the province studying with AGNA groups.

The Alberta provincial conference will be held in Red Deer April 26 and 27 (AGM on the 27th). TOPIC: 'Aging in Place: In what place are you aging?' To be held April 26th and 27th in Red Deer, Alberta (see webpage for more details)

Gerontological Nursing Association of British Columbia
www.gnabc.com

GNABC has voted to change and align their membership cycle with CGNA starting in 2012, so the membership year for 2012 will be shorter. GNABC in planning for the 2013 CGNA Conference to be held in Vancouver, BC and have identified a location, the conference will be held May 13-18th at the River rock Casino Resort – more to come later. Their 2012 AGM will occur in conjunction with the CNA and CGNA conference in June 2012. And GNABC has a new website – check it out!

Manitoba Gerontological Nursing Association
www.mbgna.com

Barbara Tallman, President noted that MBGNA AGM will take place in April. The membership survey has been distributed to MBGNA members to better understand their needs.

New Brunswick Gerontological Nursing Association

NBGNA plans to hold their annual conference in April. They are busy rewriting their bylaws and convolved with membership recruitment.

Newfoundland and Labrador Gerontological Nurses' Association

Paula Walters noted that it has been a quiet time for NLGNA however they are planning their next education day.

Nova Scotia Gerontological Nursing Association
www.nsgna.com

Sohani Welcher, NSGNA President-Elect reported that the NSGNA AGM was held in November and bylaw changes were accepted to align with CGNA's mission and vision. They have also opened up *voting* membership rights to Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), as well as Registered Nurses, and those who have retired from active nursing practice.

Gerontological Nursing Association Ontario
www.gnaontario.org

2012 GNAO Annual Provincial Conference will be hosted by the Durham Chapter on November 1st & 2nd in Oshawa, Ontario. Theme of the conference is: "*Through Different Lenses*". Go to the website for abstract submission information.

Prince Edward Island Gerontological Nursing Association

Anna Enman noted that their Annual Education Day will be held at the Dutch Inn in Charlottetown on April 20th. The title is: Excellence in the Care of Older Adults: Paving the Way For Concepts in Caring. PEIGNA can be contacted via Anna at: anna.enman@gmail.com

Of special note:

Our sincerest thoughts, prayers, and condolences are extended to Dana McNamara-Morse (NSGNA President), her 2 sons, and extended families following the tragic death on January 12th, 2012 of Dana's husband during a ski vacation.

UPCOMING EVENTS

7- 10 March 2012. **27th International Conference of Alzheimer's Disease International.** ExCeL London, UK. Deadline to submit Abstracts: 14October 2011. Info adi2012@mci-group.com

Canadian Nursing Association Biennial Conference – Vancouver, BC. June 19-21, 2012. CGNA 2012 AGM to be held Sunday, June 19, 2012 – Vancouver, BC details to follow.

National Gerontological Nursing Association (NGNA) will host their annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland from October 4-7, 2012. Info: www.ngna

**37TH ANNUAL AGM & CONFERENCE
GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING ASSOCIATION
ONTARIO**

Mark your calendar today!

*"Through
Different Lenses"*

November 1 & 2, 2012

*Hosted by the
Durham Chapter*

Quality Hotel & Conference Centre
1011 Bloor Street East, Oshawa, ON

Gerontological
Nursing Association Ontario



CGNA Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association

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