



# THE CANADIAN GERONTOLOGICAL NURSE

Winter 2017



## WINTER 2017

### A Message from the CGNA President



Dear CGNA members:

It's a new year! A time for new beginnings or renewed practices, a time for change.

As always, your executive and directors of the board have been volunteering to provide you with the best information in gerontological nursing and optimization of care for older adults and their loved ones. We had some amazing webinars, knowledge sharing via news flashes and newsletters, and we promoted the CNA certification exam in gerontology. From a membership perspective, we now have a new user-friendly membership

platform up and running smoothly.

All of the above demonstrates our commitment to a vision of promoting excellence in gerontological nursing through leadership, knowledge, and scholarship. Thank you to help us build a national community in gerontological nursing and for practicing, education, and supporting gerontological nursing every day. I am truly looking forward to greet you at our upcoming conference in Ottawa and hear about the great work you and your colleagues are doing to focus on older adults' health and well-being. The planning for the biennial conference in Ottawa is well on its way, under the strong leadership of the Conference Planning Committee, and the program looks very [promising](#).

Your commitment to CGNA makes a difference. As a nurse, an educator, a researcher, a volunteer, or a mentor of students or colleagues, CGNA offers you many possibilities to participate. Please do consider applying to positions or contributing to your local chapters, your provincial associations, on CGNA committees, or on the board of directors. As well, your contributions to Perspectives are greatly appreciated and we have several scholarships or research awards available (insert link).

Thank you for everything you do every day, for your commitment and participation, and for promoting the values of gerontological nursing.

Veronique Boscart

"How old would you be if you didn't know how old you was?" Satchel Paige (1906-1982)

## President Elect Report

Submitted by: Mollie Cole

**Practice Nurse Certification exam:** At the 2015 CGNA conference, we discussed the possibility of seeing a Practice Nurse Certification exam in gerontology that would be parallel to the exam that Registered Nurses write through the C.N.A. Members of the CGNA executive met with members of the national association for Practical Nurses (called PN Canada) in the summer of 2016. PN Canada has hired a staff person to look at future directions for their organization. This person will explore certification for practice nurses and determine if gerontology is the topic they would pursue as a first specialty exam. We have sent our CGNA conference notice to them for sharing with their members, including an encouragement to join CGNA.

**Specialty Certification – Gerontology through C.N.A.:** 1241 nurses took the exam in one of 20 specialty areas in 2016, using for the first time, an electronic format. Congratulations to the 188 Nurses who passed their Gerontological specialty certification exam – as in other years, this is the largest group compared to any of the specialty groups! The numbers of nurses who renewed by providing continuous learning will be published at the end of January: four nurses retook the exam to renew their certification.

Number of Valid CNA Certifications Who Wrote an Initial 2016 Exam and Passed

Specialty Area	AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NS	NT	ON	PE	QC	SK	YT/NU	Total
Gerontology	0	75	11	1	6	6	0	80	7	1	1	0	188



## Update 2016 – Initial Certification

Specialty Area	AB	BC	MB	NB	NL	NS	NT	ON	PE	QC	SK	YT/NU	Total
Cardiovascular	17	10	1	2	0	2	0	13	2	7	1	0	55
Community Health	14	4	1	1	6	1	0	25	0	1	0	1	54
Critical Care	7	1	7	0	1	3	0	52	2	9	8	0	90
Critical Care Pediatrics	12	4	4	0	2	4	0	6	0	0	0	0	32
Emergency	18	4	2	0	1	3	1	48	1	2	0	0	80
Enterostomal Therapy	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	8
Gastroenterology	28	2	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	45
Gerontology	0	75	11	1	6	6	0	80	7	1	1	0	188
Hospice Palliative Care	7	23	1	1	0	6	0	56	1	3	3	2	103
Medical-Surgical	5	3	0	1	0	2	0	7	1	3	2	0	24
Nephrology	4	18	1	0	5	2	0	37	0	8	0	0	75
Neuroscience	9	2	0	0	1	0	0	19	0	1	0	0	32
Occupational Health	20	2	0	0	2	1	0	14	0	1	3	0	43
Oncology	5	5	2	1	2	3	0	62	3	17	2	0	102
Orthopaedics	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	7
PeriAnesthesia	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	7	0	2	1	0	15
Perinatal	8	7	3	0	0	1	0	13	0	3	3	0	38
Perioperative	15	9	4	4	3	7	0	22	0	3	2	0	69
Psychiatric and Mental Health	2	6	0	3	4	6	2	150	0	2	1	0	176
Rehabilitation	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>636</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1241</b>

**Certification Exam writing in 2017:** There will be two writing periods for C.N.A. certification in 2017: the first exam period will be May 1-15 (applications accepted for this writing Jan 3-Mar 1); the second exam period will be Nov 1-15 (applications for this writing will be accepted between June 1 and Sept 1).

The competency blueprint for the Gerontological Nursing exam have been refreshed for the 2017 exam. We are developing a suggested study curriculum for provincial chapters to use to host a study group. A webinar for chapter leaders will be held in March 2017 to discuss strategies for supporting local study groups. CGNA will build a library of presentations on key topics from the competency blueprint that will be available to CGNA members preparing for the exam.

**Choosing Wisely – Nursing messages.** In January the Canadian Nurses Association released a list of 9 messages that impact nurses across many practice areas. You can read the list from this link: [Nine Things Nurses and Patients Should Question](#). It's great that so many of these statements speak to our gerontological practice.

**Gerontological Nursing Choosing Wisely Statements:** CGNA has the opportunity to work with CNA to develop a gerontological specific list. **A group of 5-7 gerontological nurses from across Canada is needed by the beginning of March 2017 to help develop the list over a 6 month period.** Time commitment: 6 monthly meetings (by phone) with 3-4 hours of work between the meetings. The

outcome of this work will a list of 5 evidence-informed “don’t” statements related to overuse or inappropriate use in our practice of gerontological nursing. If you are interested in participating on this working group, please contact the President-Elect, Mollie Cole at: [mollie.e.c62@gmail.com](mailto:mollie.e.c62@gmail.com).

**Scholarship awards:** Do you know a CGNA member who is studying for a degree in nursing at the undergraduate or post-graduate level? Encourage them to apply for a CGNA scholarship! The application period is now open and will close on March 31, 2017. See the CGNA web page for the application form (<http://www.cgna.net/Scholarships.html>). The Memorial Scholarship may be of special interest to Practical Nurses (LPNs or RPNs) who have been CGNA members for two years and who are working toward an undergraduate nursing degree. The Ann C. Beckingham Scholarship is targeted to CGNA members who are working on a graduate degree in nursing.

## Shaping Healthcare for those who Shaped Canada

### 19th Biennial Conference of the Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association

May 4-6, 2017 | Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

<http://CGNA2017.ca>

The excitement is building! We have accepted the oral and poster presentations, a wide selection of topics from across Canada and other countries. Registration is open. When you register be sure to check out (and check on the online form), if you plan to attend the Thursday Reception, to meet colleagues – old and new; also the Dr. Ann C Beckingham Breakfast on Saturday – no charge, but you need to sign up in order to attend as seats are limited. And don’t forget to register for the Friday night Gala, if your partner is coming with you to Ottawa, there is the opportunity for them to join in the ‘Nurses Having Fun’ evening! Those who have attended at previous conferences know we like to get up and dance. We also hold the Silent Auction at the Gala – this supports the Memorial Scholarship Fund. If you have something you’d like to contribute to the Auction please go online to: <http://cgna2017.ca/program/auction/>

Canada’s 150<sup>th</sup> birthday has begun, come share it with us!

Carla Wells and Diane Buchanan, 2017 Conference Co-chairs

## Call for Nominations to CGNA Board of Directors

The Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association is now accepting nominations for leaders to join in advancing the Mission Vision, and Role of CGNA. CGNA Board Members are responsible for setting the organization's direction, ensuring necessary resources and providing expertise.

If you or someone you know may be interested in a leadership position with CGNA, please see the details and links below for nominations.

Nine positions will be elected at the AGM in May 2017:

### SECRETARY

Term: 2017 to 2019

DIRECTORS (Newfoundland & Labrador, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI, Ontario, Alberta)

Term: 2017 to 2019

### PRESIDENT ELECT

Term: 2017-2019

### COMMUNICATION DIRECTOR

Term: 2017-2019

See the CGNA website for [position descriptions](#).

Nominations Process:

- Nominees must meet these eligibility criteria:
  - A member of CGNA, in good standing, for at least TWO years
  - Demonstrate commitment to CGNA
  - Possess skills related to their potential office
- Nominees to the position of director representing a provincial gerontological nursing association must meet these additional eligibility criteria:
  - Hold a position on the executive or board of directors of the provincial gerontological nursing association of which they are a conjoint member (preferably an executive position such as the president)
  - Commit to regular and timely communication between the CGNA Board of Directors and the provincial association of which they are a member, about issues of relevance to CGNA
- Nominations for the position of Secretary, Communication Director, and President Elect must be signed by the nominee and two (2) CGNA members
- Nominations for the positions of Director must be signed by the nominee and two (2) members of the executive or board of directors of the provincial gerontological nursing association of which they are a conjoint member.
- The Nominating Committee confirms that the nominee meets the eligibility criteria

- The nominee forwards a digital photograph to be included in the spring newsletter, along with a brief written summary (maximum 250 words) with background information and the nominee's reason for seeking the position.
- The slate of candidates will be introduced in the Spring Newsletter and at the AGM
- Nominations will not be accepted from the floor at the AGM.

Nominations Form:

The [CGNA 2017 Executive Nomination Form](#) is posted on the CGNA website.

All nominations should be forwarded to the Nominating Committee Chair, Lynn McCleary, CGNA Past President via email at [mlynnmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:mlynnmccleary@gmail.com) by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.

## CGNA Facebook & Twitter

Thank you to all who have 'Liked' us on [Facebook](#)! Remember when you are on Facebook that you can post comments and questions, respond to comments and questions, and dialogue!

If you're interested in helping with our Facebook postings or [Tweets](#), contact Lynn McCleary ([mlynnmccleary@gmail.com](mailto:mlynnmccleary@gmail.com)).



**Call for Latebreakers!**

# CGNA2017

**Gerontological Nursing:  
Shaping Healthcare for  
those who Shaped  
Canada** May 4-6, 2017  
Ottawa, Ontario  
<http://CGNA2017.ca>  
[#CGNA2017](#)

Don't miss your last chance to present at CGNA2017! Submit your latebreaker abstract by March 24, 2017:  
<http://cgna2017.ca/latebreakers>

## News from Provincial Associations

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*Alberta* – Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association  
[www.agna.ca](http://www.agna.ca)

### Greetings from Alberta

The Alberta Gerontological Nurses Association has spent some time this year looking at our opportunities to become stronger as an organization. Working groups have been considering membership and communications issues, and we are considering 3 new executive roles to better support our members.

A number of chapter events have taken place including a joint chapter Teleconference between Fort McMurray and Edmonton. The Fort McMurray Chapter is working hard to get reestablished, as some of its members were directly impacted by the massive fire in May, as well as being involved in getting services reestablished for the patients they serve.

AGNAs Annual General Meeting and Conference will be held April 22 in Red Deer. This year's theme is "Home is Where the Heart Is" and will focus on services and programs that support older adults in the community.

Submitted by Terri Woytkiw



*British Columbia* - Gerontological Nurses Association  
of British Columbia  
[www.gnabc.com](http://www.gnabc.com)

### Greetings from British Columbia

Gerontological Nurses Association of BC annual provincial conference. March 30-31<sup>st</sup>. Celebrating the journey of aging: a focus on living and dying well.

March 30-Evening reception, March 31<sup>st</sup> all day conference.

At the Coast Inn of the North, Prince George. Please go to the [website](#) for more information and for information regarding your local monthly chapter meetings.

Submitted by Catrin Brodie



*Manitoba* – Manitoba Gerontological Nurses' Association

### Greetings from Manitoba

MGNA continues the efforts in recruiting new members and promoting MGNA's vision and mission:

Promote electronic membership renewal at our new MGNA website

<http://www.mgna.ca> that leads to CGNA membership link:

<http://membership.cgna.net/mb>

Promote and enhance MGNA's presence to reach colleagues and partners interested in care for older people. MGNA new website is up and running. Visit us at:

<http://www.mgna.ca>

Activities during this period include general meetings and educational sessions: General meeting held on September 06 2016 followed by education presentation entitled "Diabetes care and management: Considerations for Practicing with the Elderly" by Kerry Heather, RN, BScN.

Scheduled December General Meeting was cancelled due to severe winter storm/blizzard.

Next General meeting to be held on February 21, 2017 at CRNM building from 1700 to 1900 hours. Education presentation entitled "Elder Abuse: It's Not Right" by Poh-Lin Lim and Lois Stewart-Archer

Travel grants to be finalized to support members to attend 2017 CGNA conference to be held in Ottawa in May 2017.

Special thank you to Patty Johnson for making the MGNA QUILT SQUARE for 2017 CGNA conference.

Exciting News: MGNA is a silver sponsor of the Manitoba Alzheimer Society Dementia Care conference on March 6 & 7 featuring Teepa Snow in Winnipeg. We will be promoting MGNA with our new banner for the 2 days. We will also have white and burgundy mugs with the MGNA logo and cream and burgundy pens at our booth.

Submitted by Poh-Lin Lim, Past President, MGNA



*New Brunswick* – New Brunswick  
Gerontological Nursing Association

**Greetings from New Brunswick**

The NBGNA met on December 2, 2016. We invited the New Brunswick representative for Care Link Advantage, who demonstrated some of the safety technologies available. It was very informative, and fascinating to see the various devices, which could help seniors to safely remain in their homes longer.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in April 2017. During this session we will be developing a strategic plan to increase membership, develop relationships with other like-minded organizations in the province, and look into ways to better communicate to all our members.

Currently our Executive consists of:

- President: John MacDonald
- President Elect: Vacant
- Secretary: Sylvie Bernard
- Treasurer: Ronda McCready
- Past President: Dawn Fenton (Education)

Submitted by John MacDonald, President, NBGNA



*Newfoundland* – Newfoundland & Labrador  
Gerontological Nurses Association [www.nlgna.ca](http://www.nlgna.ca)

**Greetings from Newfoundland**

We have had two Executive meetings since the last reporting period with our new Executive.

At our next Executive meeting the end of January we are planning our next Education Day which will take place this Fall 2017 or Spring.

Continued updating of our by-laws are underway and will be continued at our next meeting.

We are now accepting applications for the NLGNA Bursary through our Provincial Association. This has been distributed to our provincial membership

Submitted by Sue Ann Mandville - Anstey

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*Nova Scotia* – Nova Scotia Gerontological Nurses Association [www.nsgna.com](http://www.nsgna.com)

## Greetings from Nova Scotia

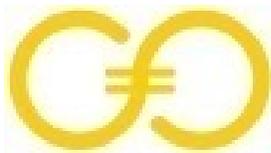
We are excited to have our membership approaching 80 members and are looking forward to those numbers continuing to move upward.

Preliminary planning is underway for our annual Education session & Annual General Meeting. Tentatively this will be held mid May 2017 with details about speakers & education topics to follow shortly.

The executive have continued to work on updating of by-laws with a plan to present these to the membership in May.

Submitted by Jennifer Hayes, President NSGNA

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*Ontario* – Gerontological Nursing Association Ontario [www.gnaontario.org](http://www.gnaontario.org)

## Greetings from Ontario

GNAO is actively engaging in planning activities for the 2017 CGNA Biennial Conference. We are excited to host colleagues from across the country to engage in networking, learning and to have some fun! If you are a student, make sure you follow GNAO on social media as we will be sharing news of an exciting contest soon regarding the CGNA conference.

If you are interested in joining the GNAO board, please contact President Julie Rubel ([julie.rubel@gmail.com](mailto:julie.rubel@gmail.com)) as recruitment is underway for 2 provincial executive positions including Student/ New Graduate Liaison and Professional Advocacy Chair.

Lastly, the next issue of the GNAO newsletter will be sent out via email in February 2017. The November 2016 edition highlighted exciting GNAO chapter events as well as funding opportunities and ways to be involved in GNAO. It's available on [our website](#).

Submitted by, Julie Rubel, President GNAO



*Prince Edward Island* – Prince Edward Island  
Gerontological Nurses Association

### **Greetings from Prince Edward Island**

Eileen Larkin has accepted the nomination for Vice President of PEIGNA.

The Education Committee is working to arrange our Spring Education Session which will be held on April 21/2017.

Membership is encouraged to attend the upcoming CGNA Conference in Ottawa in May 2017.

Next meeting of the membership is scheduled for February 15th.

Submitted by: Susan Clory, President PEIGNA

## Your CGNA Board of Directors

CGNA EXECUTIVE	
<b>President:</b> Veronique Boscart	vboscart@conestogac.on.ca
<b>President Elect:</b> Mollie Cole	mollie.cole@albertahealthservices.ca
<b>Treasurer/Membership:</b> Michelle Heyer	Mheyer@conestogac.on.ca
<b>Secretary:</b> Heidi Holmes	hholmes@conestogac.on.ca
<b>Past President:</b> Lynn McCleary	mlynnmccleary@gmail.com
CGNA DIRECTORS	
<b>British Columbia, GNABC:</b> Catrin Brodie	catrinbrodie@shaw.ca
<b>Alberta, AGNA:</b> Lynne Moulton	president@agna.ca
<b>Manitoba, MGNA:</b> Tara McNaughton	tmcnaughton@pmh-mb.ca
<b>New Brunswick, NBGNA:</b> John MacDonald	d1ds@nb.sympatico.ca
<b>Newfoundland &amp; Labrador, NLGNA:</b> Sue Ann Mandville-Anstey	sueann.mandville.anstey@mun.ca
<b>Nova Scotia, NSGNA:</b> Jennifer Hayes	Jennifer.Hayes@nshealth.ca
<b>Ontario, GNAO:</b> Julie Rubel	Julie.rubel@gmail.com
<b>Prince Edward Island, PEIGNA:</b> Susan Clory	saclory@ihis.org

### Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association Management

Anthony Lombardo

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