



# Annual Report

Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses

APRIL 1, 2007 — MARCH 31, 2008

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## Vision Statement

Critical care nursing practice is research based,  
in an environment committed to quality,  
holistic care, where optimal  
client/family outcomes are achieved  
through partnerships and  
appropriate use of resources.



[www.caccn.ca](http://www.caccn.ca)





# Board of Directors

- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Asha Pereira              | Asha is a Western Region representative from Winnipeg, Manitoba. She began her term as President on April 1, 2006 and continued to serve in this role until March 31, 2008. Asha is the Chairperson of Dynamics 2008, which will be held in Montréal, Québec. She has served five years on the board.   |
| Cecilia St. George-Hyslop | Cecilia is one of our Central Region representatives from Toronto, Ontario. Cecilia is serving as Vice President and currently holds the portfolios of Awards and Corporate Sponsorship. Cecilia has also agreed to serve as Chairperson for Dynamics 2009, in the province of New Brunswick. She will take the reigns as President of CACCN April 1, 2008. |
| Glenda Roy                | Glenda, one of our Eastern Region Directors, is from Grand-Falls Windsor, Newfoundland and Labrador. Glenda, in her fourth and final year on the Board, continued to do an excellent job in her role as Treasurer. Glenda is part of the Planning Committee for Dynamics 2008.  |
| Joy Mintenko              | Joy is from Regina, Saskatchewan and represents the Western Region. She is also in her fourth year and holds the portfolio of Secretary. In addition, Joy was the Chairperson of Dynamics 2007, an incredibly successful conference, held in Regina, Saskatchewan.  |
| Pamela Cybulski           | Pam is from Brampton, Ontario and represents the Central Region. Pam is responsible for the Retention and Recruitment Portfolio. She will be Chairperson for Dynamics 2011 in London, Ontario.  |
| Kate Mahon                | Kate is from Halifax, Nova Scotia and represents the Eastern Region. Kate has taken over the portfolios of Research and Publications and has done an outstanding job ensuring Dynamics, the Official Journal of the CACCN continues to be an excellent, peer-reviewed Journal.  |

**CACCN...**  
**The Voice for**  
**Canadian**  
**Critical Care**  
**Nurses**

## Local Chapter Presidents



- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| BC Chapter               | Lisa Krueckl      |
| Calgary Chapter          | Elaine Rose       |
| Greater Edmonton Chapter | Charlotte Pooler  |
| London Regional Chapter  | Joan Rivard       |
| Manitoba Chapter         | Lissa Currie      |
| Montreal Chapter         | Renee Chauvin     |
| New Brunswick Chapter    | Merica Chase      |
| Nova Scotia Chapter      | Heather MacDonald |
| Ottawa Regional Chapter  | Abbie Hain        |
| Saskatchewan Chapter     | Frankie Verville  |
| Toronto Chapter          | Robert Fuerte     |
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- |                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Dynamics Clinical Editor | Paula Price  |
| National Administrator   | Gina Mustard |

# President's Letter

Dear CACCN Members and Supporters,

The CACCN Annual Report is one of the many ways in which we, the Board of Directors are able to inform our members of our activities over the past fiscal year. So, it is with great pleasure that I introduce the CACCN Annual Report 2007-2008. This report contains the many initiatives undertaken by this Board of Directors between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008. In the pages that follow, please find our statements reflecting the accountability of the CACCN Board of Directors to our membership and to the many corporate partners who support CACCN goals and objectives.

We are well aware of the immense role our members and corporate sponsors play in shaping the direction of CACCN and without their continued support, we would not enjoy the success that this report details. It is also true that the CACCN is a volunteer professional association that relies heavily upon the dedication of the Board of Directors, Paula Price, Clinical Editor of Dynamics, the Official Journal of the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses, and the sacrifices of their families. Finally, the organization and day-to-day smooth functioning of the National Office

would not be possible if not for the hard work of Gina Mustard.

This past year saw many new initiatives, including the "Critical Connections" e-newsletter, the Job Links initiative, continued focus on updating and developing our website toward the goal of a members only site and on-line Journal. All of our operational information has been converted to electronic format. Our Constitution and Bylaws to ensure gender neutral language has been adopted throughout. Transparency to our members was a key goal and we have improved communication and access to information. Our Standards of Practice are now available on-line through our website. We were able to create a legacy award to honor critical care nurses who demonstrate outstanding leadership and contribution to CACCN. The award was named the Brenda Morgan Award for Leadership and was presented to Brenda Morgan (along with a financial award) as the first recipient. Brenda Morgan was also nominated by CACCN as one of Canada's 100 nurses and is being recognized by the Canadian Nurses Association during their biennium year. Francis Loos was nominated by CACCN to

the editorial review board for CNA and CACCN continues to seek opportunities to recognize critical care nurses who have contributed to the association over the past 25 years. Financially, we have been building our Enhancement Fund to allow further improvements to our members. New Brunswick is our newest Chapter and we continue to grow. We continue to seek to develop new corporate and professional partnerships and as we continue to recruit and retain members, seek initiatives to keep our long-standing members while also appealing to the new graduates who are joining our specialty. As we move forward into our 25<sup>th</sup> year and beyond, we would like to confirm our commitment to critical care nursing practice and to the many patients and families whose lives we touch.

Sincerely,



Asha Pereira  
CACCN President  
2006-2008



## Membership

Membership in CACCN as of March 31, 2008 was 979. This compares with a membership of 1074 at this time last year. CACCN continues to strive to increase the voice of critical care nursing in Canada through a stronger membership and a more visible presence. CACCN would like to recognize the following Chapters for their recruitment efforts over the past year:

**Min. 25% of membership is "new" between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008**

The following will be receiving one free full Dynamics 2008 tuition coupon:

Greater Edmonton	28%
Nova Scotia	28%

**Min. 33% of membership is "new" between April 1, 2007 and March 31, 2008**

The following will be receiving one free full Dynamics 2008 tuition coupon plus a \$100 coupon:

BC	34%
Montreal	40%
New Brunswick	33%
Saskatchewan	45%
Toronto	33%

**Greater than 80% renewal of its previous year's members**

The following will receive 3 Dynamics 2008 tuition \$100 coupons:

Montreal	80.56%
Saskatchewan	89.39%

**Greater than 70% renewal of its previous year's members**

The following will receive 2 Dynamics 2008 tuition \$100 coupons:

Calgary	77.14%
Greater Edmonton	75.68%
Manitoba	73.08%

**Greater than 60% renewal of its previous year's members**

The following will receive 1 Dynamics 2008 tuition \$100 coupon:

Ottawa	65.56%
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**Note: overall retention is 63.78%.**

As usual, we ran the Twin and Win Campaign, along with the Nurses Week Contest. In addition, the Silver Anniversary Chapter Challenge was implemented at Chapter Connections Day 2007. We encourage all members to help support their local chapters grow by 25% in the coming year.

At the end of fiscal 2008, we asked our members to complete a survey regarding the benefits of CACCN membership. Based on your comments, we will be investing in our website and other membership initiatives to ensure we continue to support your needs as a member.

**The Silver Anniversary Chapter Challenge was issued October 20, 2007.**

**Can we increase our membership by 25% by Sept. 27, 2008?**





**Congratulations to  
Saskatchewan for  
winning the  
Chapter of the  
Year Award in  
2007.**

# Awards and Corporate Sponsorship

The Annual Report is a terrific way to highlight the generosity of our sponsors and the efforts of the recipients, of these prestigious awards. It is an honour and a privilege in partnering with our sponsors and other critical care nurses, in selecting deserving award recipients. In today's fast paced, high stress, and demanding work places, it is critical to take every opportunity possible to recognize, thank and reward the best works of others.

The awards ceremony at Dynamics and the Annual Report provide formal opportunities for this recognition. Thanks to our corporate sponsors, we are able to recognize those nurses who have demonstrated excellence in nursing and critical care through their exceptional leadership in education, clinical and professional practice. We very much appreciate their generous contribution to our awards program. For the nurses who have made contributions to their organizations, colleagues, and most importantly patients and families, we value their efforts.

Award sponsors for 2007-2008 were Baxter, Sorin Group, Edwards Lifesciences, SMITHS Medical, Spacelabs Medical, 3M Healthcare, BBraun, and CACCN. Nurses were recognized formally on Monday Oct 22, at the awards ceremony at Dynamics '07 in Regina, Saskatchewan.

This year we have seen some exciting changes: an increase in the monetary value of some of the awards, as well as our excitement about a new award – the CACCN Brenda Morgan Leadership Excellence Award. Please review the award recipients for 2007/2008.



## **Chapter of the Year Award:**

Congratulations to the Saskatchewan Chapter. This award (\$500.00) + a beautiful plaque is to recognize the effort, contributions and dedication of a chapter of CACCN in carrying out the purposes and goals of the association. The Saskatchewan chapter was recognized by Sorin Group Canada for their outstanding work. Accomplishments for 2007/2008 include holding 2 conferences, increasing their recruitment of new members to CACCN by 36%, offering educational activities and establishing linkages with Saskatchewan Association of Registered Nurses, Saskatchewan Emergency Nurses Group and Peri-Anaesthesia Nurses Group, as professional practice groups. Thank you to Sorin Group Canada for continuing to support this ward.



## **Spacelabs Innovative Project Award:**

This award (\$500.00) is presented to a group of critical care nurses who develop a project that will enhance their professional development. Janelle Plouffe from Winnipeg, Manitoba was awarded the Spacelabs award for her project on "The Solar System of Safety" which is a creative energizing safety model using our planets. Each planet represented one safety element: VAP, CVL bloodstream infection, CRRT, rapid response team, management team rounds, safety newsletter, and safety huddles. This is an inter-professional project that focuses on patient safety. Thank you to Spacelabs Medi-

cal for continuing to support this ward.

## **Editorial Awards:**

Our 2 Editorial Awards are generously sponsored by Edwards Life Sciences (\$750.00) and 3M Healthcare (\$250.00). These articles are expected to demonstrate the achievement of excellence in the area of critical care nursing and appeared in Dynamics the Official Journal of the Canadian Critical Care Nurses



## **Edwards**

### **a) Edwards Lifesciences:**

The first prize award winner is Christina Hurlock-Chorostecki and Cathy Kielb from London, Ontario for their article: Knot-So-Fast: A learning plan to minimize patient restraint in critical care. (Fall 2006). Dynamics the Official Journal of the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses, 17(3), 12-18.

## **3M HealthCare**

### **b) 3M Healthcare:**

The second prize was awarded to Susan Mertin Joann Sawatzky, William Diehl-Jones, and Trevor Le, from Winnipeg Manitoba: Roadblock to recovery: The surgical stress response. (Spring 2007) Dynamics the Official Journal of the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses, 18(1), 14-22.

Thank you to Edwards LifeSciences and 3M for continuing to support these wards.

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# Awards Continued...

## smiths

### SMITHS Educational Award(s)

This Educational award (\$1000.00) provides funds to assist critical care nurses to attend continuing education programs at the baccalaureate, masters and doctoral level. SMITHS Medical sponsors 2 educational awards each year.

The September, 2007 submission was awarded to Karen Palmer from London Ontario, in pursuing her Nursing Degree at Ryerson University. In January of 2007, there were no applications for the 2<sup>nd</sup> SMITHS Medical award and so SMITHS Medical generously sponsored Bernice Budz from Vancouver BC to attend the World Federation of Critical care Nurses (WFCCN) in

South Africa – August 2007. Bernice is CACCN's nursing link to WFCCN. Thank you to SMITHS Medical for their continued support of this award. This year SMITHS Medical generously increased the award value from \$500 to \$1000.00.

## Baxter

### The Baxter Guardian Scholarship in Patient Safety

Recipients of this award will identify ideas that encompass safety and improve the quality of care in their practice area. This year's award (\$5,000.00 or 2 prizes of \$2,500.00 each) was given to 2 groups of recipients:

The first award went to Gina Case from London Health Sciences Cen-

tre, Victoria Hospital, London, Ontario for their proposal for "Enhancing patient safety by reducing antibiotic resistant organisms (ARO) transmission through a collaborative approach". Co-investigators are Jo-Anne Vandierendonck, and Dr. Michael John at the London Health Sciences Center.

The second award was presented to another well deserving team headed by Patricia Hynes, Mount Sinai Hospital, Toronto, Ontario for their study "Independent double check – A survey of Canadian ICU nurses". Co-investigators are Steve Ramganes, Lisa Burry, Andrew Wylie, Jocelyn Bennett.

## B|BRAUN

### BBraun Mentorship Award

The BBraun Mentorship, a new award (\$1000.00) was not awarded in 2006/2007. However in the 2007-2008 time period, we are happy to report this Mentorship award was given to a well deserving recipient, Jennifer Lewis from IWK health Centre, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She was nominated by Susan Roper, Denise MacIntyre and Nicole Lewis. Go to Page 6

Once again,  
thank you to all  
of our  
corporate  
sponsors for  
their ongoing  
commitment  
through support  
of nurses  
awards and  
sponsorship.  
Application  
criteria for all  
awards can be  
found at  
[www.caccn.ca](http://www.caccn.ca).

## CNA Critical Care Certification

**CACCN encourages nurses to write the Canadian Nurses Association's (CNA's) Certification Examination in Critical Care. As per CNA, the purpose of certification is:**

"To promote excellence in nursing for the people of Canada through the establishment of national standards of practice in nursing specialty areas;

To provide an opportunity for practitioners to confirm their competence in a specialty; and

To identify through a recognized credential, those nurses meeting the national standards of their specialty". (CNA website, 2007)

This year, the 2008 CNA Adult and Pediatric Critical Care Certification

exams will be written on April 5, 2008. Adult certification in critical care continues to increase each year. In pediatrics, because it is such a sub-specialty, movement in certification is much slower.

For CACCN members, there were 28 that wrote their CNCC(C) for the first time and 47 that renewed their CNCC(C) certification in the adult category.

For CACCN members, there were 3 that wrote their CNCCP(C) for the first time and none that renewed in the pediatric category.

Each year CACCN holds a certification draw at the Baxter Reception held at the Dynamics of Critical Care Conference.

In October 2007 in Regina, SK, the following nurses won the draw for \$250.00 in support of their efforts in successfully passing this examina-

tion and obtaining the adult credential- CNCC(C) and the pediatric credential- CNCCP(C):

Adult certification:

Leah Johnson- Edmonton, AB  
Rhonda Matheson- Winnipeg, MB  
Nathalie Goulet- Saint Lazare, QC

Adult Recertification:

Angela Ryan- Maxville, ON  
Moir MacNeil- Toronto, ON

Pediatric Certification:

Lindsay Hyslop- Hamilton, ON  
Isabelle Hubert- Montreal, QC  
Sandy Rolfe- Langley, BC

This year's draw will be held at Dynamics 2008 in Montreal.





## Publications

Dynamics-The Official Journal of the CACCN is the only peer-reviewed critical care nursing journal in Canada. We publish four issues annually, which are distributed to approximately 1000 personal subscribers along with 26 institutional subscriptions. The journal has its own web page on CACCN's homepage and continues to be listed in the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), The International Nursing Index, and Medline. The journal is also listed on ONLINE Nursing Editors at <http://members.aol.com/suzannehi/maed.htm>

Paula Price, the Clinical Editor continues to provide outstanding leadership along with her Editorial Review Board of adult consultants: Janice Beitel (Toronto), Kathleen Graham (Halifax), Martha MacKay (Vancouver); pediatric consultants: Franco Carnevale (Montreal) and Judy Rashotte (Ottawa); neonatal consultant: Debbie Fraser Askin (Winnipeg). New to the board this year as an adult consultant

is Sandra Goldsworthy (Oshawa). The Publications Chair from the Board of Directors of CACCN is Kate Mahon (Halifax).

CACCN is extremely fortunate to benefit from the continuing long term relationship with Pappin Communications of Pembroke, Ontario who are the journal's publishers and also great supporters of our Association over many years. They bring great expertise and advice in production of a quality journal.

This past year the Review Board provided thoughtful review and editing for authors of 11 manuscripts, with nine published throughout the year. It is through their diligence that the journal maintains its standard as a scholarly, specialty journal. The summer issue of the journal is reserved for publication of abstracts that have been accepted for the annual fall national conference. The manuscripts are coming in slow but steady, but the Review Board would be very pleased to receive more for consideration and offer a

wonderful support particularly to first time authors wishing to get published.

We are now running three regular columns in each issue (except the summer issue) of the journal: ISMP Canada, Research Review and The Canadian ICU Collaborative. We had two articles with CEU credits this past year.

In other publications, the Board of Directors (BOD) has initiated a review and revision of the Standards of Critical Care Nursing Practice (2003) with a revised addition to be published in the coming year for all members.

CACCN Position Statements are available on our CACCN home page.

Members have asked when will the journal be available and accessible on-line? The BOD is pursuing this actively at the present time.

As we end the past year, we look forward to our Silver Anniversary year ahead with special journal articles highlighting the contributions of past and present members of CACCN.



*"The CACCN Research Grant (\$1000) was awarded to Jannell Plouffe from Winnipeg."*

## Awards Continued...

### **CACCN Research Grant**

The winner in 2007 was Jannell Plouffe, along with co-investigators Kim Fraser, Helen Cooper and Susan Launder, from Winnipeg Manitoba, for their research "The health care providers perceptions of family presence in pediatric resuscitation." The CACCN National Board of Directors is pleased on annual basis to be able to provide this award to members on an annual basis to further nursing research. The award was valued at \$1,000.00 and was approved for an increase to

\$2,500.00 in the Fall Board of Directors Meeting for 2008 award year.

### **CACCN Brenda Morgan Leadership Excellence Award.**

Finally, a new award was added to the list last year. The inaugural award was awarded to Brenda Morgan in 2007. The Brenda Morgan Leadership Award was established in June 2007 by the CACCN Board of Directors to recognize and honour Brenda Morgan, who has made a significant contribution to CACCN and critical care nursing over many

years. This award for excellence in leadership is presented to a nurse who, on a consistent basis demonstrates outstanding performance in the area of leadership in critical care. This leadership may have been expressed as efforts toward clinical advances within an organization, or leadership in the profession of nursing in critical care. This award has been generously sponsored by CACCN in order to recognize and honour a nurse who exemplifies excellence in leadership, in the specialty of Critical Care.

# Education - Dynamics 2007 Regina, Saskatchewan

**Fields of Change in Critical Care:** Every province in Canada was represented by the near 400 delegates that attended Dynamics 2007 on October 21-23, 2007 in Regina, SK. This was the first time that Saskatchewan had ever hosted the National conference. The Planning Committee consisted of Joy Mintenko (Chairperson), Lori Garchinski, Marian Hutchinson, Francis Loos, Shirley MacGowan, Judy Nixon, and Gina Mustard. Without these dedicated hardworking individuals, Dynamics 2007 could not have achieved the success that it did. The keynote speakers were an interesting blend of nursing politics, challenges and inspiration. They brought a prairie influence to the keynote plenary ses-

sions that really reflected on all of Canada's nurses. Dr. Marlene Smadu, President of the Canadian Nurses Association, spoke on "Planting Seeds to Create Change". Kaaren Neufeld, President Elect of the CNA, taught us about "The Seven Habits of a Highly Effective Nurse". Dr. Lynne Mitchell-Pederson, an educational psychologist challenged us to "Climb Mount Kilimanjaro- and Other Mountains". Darci Lang closed the conference with her inspiring presentation on "Focusing on the 90%: One Simple Tool for Transforming How You View Your Life". There were 20 poster presentations in addition to the excellent speakers that presented their topics during

the concurrent sessions. Dynamics 2007 brought colleagues together to provide a forum to share ideas and experiences. The networking continued into the evening at the Annual Dinner where we were entertained by Bobby Bruce, a Neil Diamond tribute singer.

Dynamics 2007 showed us that while there may be "Fields of Change in Critical Care", there will always be critical care nurses that care enough to ensure the succession of our profession.

**Joy Mintenko**

**Dynamics 2007 Chairperson**

## Chapter Connections Day

Chapters Connections Day, October 20, 2007, brought together the Chapter Presidents (or their delegate), from across Canada for a pre-conference planning day with the National President, Board of Directors and the National office Administrator. The opportunity each year for the Chapters to get together in one room for a day always produces lively discussion, sharing of experiences and ideas and a renewed commitment to the mission and vision of CACCN. From the opening fun warm up exercise, requiring each table to envision and demonstrate other uses for every day objects they selected, the enthusiasm in the room was palpable. Ingenuity and imagination are the hallmarks of critical care nurses in every day practice, so it was not at all surprising to see some of the "alternate" uses that the groups came up with for their items. This exercise filled the room with laughter; an excellent way to start the day.

The business of the day included an update on Board activities with the President and each Director re-

porting on the work and accomplishments of the past year within their portfolio. National Office Administrator, Gina Mustard, orientated the group to the support her role can offer to each Chapter in facilitating the development of Chapter website links on the CACCN website ([www.caccn.ca](http://www.caccn.ca)). In addition Gina walked us through resources available on-line to assist the Chapters in managing their activities. Expectations and tools for reporting of Chapter financial information and quarterly and annual reports were also reviewed. Then each Chapter had a chance to report on: a significant accomplishment, something they were proud of and to articulate if they had a magic wand what they would hope for in the coming year. This led to some great dialogue between Chapters on some of their more successful endeavors. Our newest Chapter, New Brunswick, with 12 members, represented by Brenda Gallagher, was able to gain valuable perspectives and support from colleagues across the country sharing ideas to assist in recruiting new members. Everyone was delighted

to hear that the National Board is allocating \$300.00 per Chapter, as a grant to support activities over the coming year, in the recruitment and retention of members. We look forward to next year hearing how the money assisted the Chapters in accomplishing their goals.

After a pleasant lunch where networking and enthusiasm remained high, President Asha Pereira led the Chapters and Directors through a strategic planning exercise designed to identify priority goals for CACCN over the coming year. The Board was delighted when the group identified the same priorities as they had in the spring with recruitment and retention and advocacy strong goals to strive for. Recognizing that everyone is time challenged to accomplish the work to achieve identified goals, Asha used a fascinatingly simple set of questions to help the group focus in on how we could achieve major impact with the least amount of effort. She challenged the group with the questions: "How would you explain our issue to an outsider? How would you solve the problem if money was no object? What if you did the opposite? What if you did nothing?" Asha highlighted some of the things that the Board is doing to reach these goals: Critical Connections newsletter; enhancing CACCN website; developing a membership survey; being voting members of the Canadian Patient Safety Institute and Safer Healthcare Now!; regular dialogue with the Canadian Nurses Association; providing \$300 to each Chapter to use towards their priorities; the Silver Anniversary Challenge to have each Chapter increase their membership by 25%. In addition the theme for Dynamics 2008 is about advocacy.

As the day ended, the feedback from the group indicated that the day is appropriately called "Chapter Connections." All agreed it was time well spent together and left the room brimming with enthusiasm and ideas to take back to their Chapter members.

**Kate Mahon, Director, Eastern Region**  
**Elaine Rose, President, Calgary Chapter**



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**The Voice for**  
**Canadian Critical**  
**Care Nurses**

## Partnerships



### World Federation of Critical Care Nurses

The WFCCN has continued to develop since its inception on Oct 30, 2001 at the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Intensive Care and Critical Care in Sydney, Australia. Canada was on the inaugural Council represented by Bernice Budz, a long standing member of the CACCN and former board member.

Membership continues to grow following the 2007 August WFCCN conference held in Sun City, South Africa. At this meeting we had Nigeria official join bringing our total country membership to 33 and followed by 2 countries in negotiation for membership. This is very exciting to have an international organization bring nurses together to share their voices and practices around critical care nursing. At this meeting we held elections for the next Core Administration. The new Chair is Ged Williams of Australia, Secretary Shelley Schmollgruber of South Africa, Treasurer Gordon Speed of New Zealand and Trade & Sponsor Representative is Laura Alberto from Argentina. I decided to retire from being the treasure for 6 years and now am a Council member representing Canada.

It was very exciting to have the opportunity as the CACCN representative on the WFCCN to go and meet with the African Nation's critical care nurses and hear their stories. As the adage says, you don't know how fortunate you are until you hear from others in the world how little they have to provide patient care. I will elaborate more in my article discussing my trip to Africa. Due to the political unrest in many African countries center such as hospitals, clinics, libraries and schools have been destroyed. I had the opportunity to hear first hand from nursing leaders how they struggle to get journals and textbooks for their staff. Equipment that we call basic is still a luxury for them like pulse oximetry and cardiac monitors. The enthusiasm to learn and practice using evidence based medicine is remarkable. Everyone wants to be able to do the right thing for their patient no matter what country they live in. The WFCCN continues to create a network to link nurses from various countries with these African nurse leaders so they can grow and share information plus educational and medical tools.

The website was developed shortly after the inception of the WFCCN as a vehicle to create

international communication for critical care nurses. The website address is [www.wfccn.org](http://www.wfccn.org). The time has come to reinvent the website. The plan is to update the construction design and content. This will be a major initiative for the WFCCN in 2008-09. With the growing number of Spanish speaking members, it has become necessary that the website have a duplicate page written in Spanish as well. Over time we hope to be able to offer other languages as well. I would encourage all critical care nurses to go to the website frequently for updates and links.

WFCCN has developed and published three position statements. The first one is the Provision of Critical Care Nursing Education, the Provision of Critical Care Nursing Workforce and the latest is International Workforce Guidelines. All of these can be viewed on the website. In addition, the draft Accomplishment Report for WFCCN Activities of 2005-2007 was circulated for discussion at the meeting in South Africa. Once it is finalized it will be sent to the CACCN for distribution and will also be available on the website.

CONNECT became the official Journal of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses in 2003. We have just negotiated a new contract for the journal which is owned by Paul Fulbrook and Lynne Harrison, the Co-Editors who are from the United Kingdom. This new contract will be in effect until 2010. This project will be funded by a corporate donor. The journal will remain as an electronic journal that is *free of charge* to all critical care nurses belonging to the WFCCN via their member country. The link for the journal is [www.connectpublishing.com](http://www.connectpublishing.com). To receive the journal, you need to register at the home page and your access to the journal occurs quickly. If you have not yet registered please do so as the articles are well worth reading. If you would like to submit an article for publication, all the guidelines for authorship are also listed on the home page. We encourage every nurse to consider submitting an article. The editorial review board is very supportive especially for first time authors. We need to see some Canadian nurses publishing in our journal!

It has been a wonderful volunteer opportunity for me to represent the Canadian Association of Critical Care Nurses at this international level. I feel very committed to the ongoing development of the WFCCN since having been part of its incep-

# Partnerships Continued...

tion. I do hope each and everyone of you takes the time to look at the website and registers to receive the journal CONNECT. It is your way to be connected to the global world of critical care nursing. Please do consider attending the international meeting in Mexico City on November 12, 13, 14, 2008 and think about the next meeting in Florence, Italy in August 2009. I encourage as many of you to attend this meeting as it is a wonderful forum to meet critical care nurses from around the world and share your expertise. The location for this meeting will be spectacular. Please see the WFCCN website for more details and links. I look forward to seeing you there!

Respectfully submitted by:

**Bernice Budz, MSN, RN, CNCC(C), CCRN, ARNP**

## Canadian Nurses Association

As an Associate group of the CNA, we provide a copy of our annual report to CNA and are invited to participate in teleconferences and to provide feedback and input into many of CNA's activities. Over the past year, CNA has made an effort to strengthen its network and has sought the voice of its members frequently. We look forward to working collaboratively with the President of CNA, Marilyn Smadu and the Board of Directors to ensure the issues of critical care nurses are brought forward at a National level. We have participated in position statement development by CNA, offered feedback and suggestions to ensure the issues related to patients and their families are represented nationally. Brenda Morgan, CACCN member and Past President, was recognized by CNA as one of Canada's 100 nurses during this, their centennial year. CACCN's partnership with our National Nursing body is continuing to strengthen and we are very proud to support this organization.

## Canadian Intensive Care Foundation

Sandra Matheson is now serving as liaison between CACCN and CICF. The CACCN includes a CICF membership with every CACCN membership renewal to encourage this partnership. CICF continues to provide financial grants to CACCN for many of our activities. This year CICF and CACCN entered into a formal Memorandum of Understanding with CICF to show our commitment to this agency

## Canadian ICU Collaborative

The CACCN recognizes the role of the Canadian ICU Collaborative and for the past two years have encouraged our members to participate in the Quality Initiatives of this organization. The ICU Collaborative have held their meetings immediately prior to the Dynamics Conference and have encour-

aged their members to attend CACCN activities. In Regina, the Collaborative hosted a cocktail reception and poster session that coincided with the Registration for the conference to entice CACCN members to view the poster presentations of their group. CACCN also hosts a column in the Dynamics Journal, highlighting the activities of the collaborative.

## Canadian Council of Donation and Transplantation

CACCN and the CCDT continue to partner to provide education and information about organ donation in Canada. We continue to provide the critical care nurses perspective in caring for donors and recipients and their families. Members of our Board of Directors sit as committee members and are able to provide valuable insight into the development of policies and direction for this organization. CCDT offered a presentation to our delegates at Dynamics in Regina that was very well received and helped to ensure knowledge transfer to our members.

## Institute of Safe Medication Practices (ISMP)

The CACCN continues to partner with ISMP Canada. Their regular column in our journal is positively received by members.

**Asha Pereira**  
**CACCN President**  
**2006-2008**

# Communication Boards



The CACCN communication boards continue to be used to promote CACCN and to provide a means of keeping critical care nurses informed of the activities of the Association. CACCN would like to thank the members who act as a liaison to keep these boards updated. We are currently out of the original boards and are looking at ways we can continue to use this form of communication to touch base with current members and attract new ones.

The CNA theme for Nurses' Week 2007 was "Think you know nursing? Take a closer look."

Congratulations to our winner, Leslie Chrysanthou from Calgary.

Leslie received a free tuition to Dynamics 2007 in Regina, SK. Watch for this year's contest to win a free tuition to Dynamics 2008 in Montreal, QC.

**The CACCN is a non-profit, specialty organization dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of care provided to critically ill clients and their families. CACCN serves its membership, the public and the critical care nursing community by meeting the professional and educational needs of critical care nurses. These needs are met by developing and implementing standards of critical care nursing practice, providing educational opportunities, providing opportunities for networking, identifying and addressing political and professional issues, and finally by collaborating with other professional organizations.**

## Research

CACCN actively supports the research endeavours of our members through its Awards and Corporate Sponsorship Program and specifically the Board sponsored CACCN Research Grant award. Previously valued at \$1,000 annually, the BOD recognized the significant contribution that research makes to evidence-based practice and the efforts of

critical care nurses to undertake research, and has increased the value of this award to \$2,500 for the coming year. The award winner in 2007 is listed under the Awards and Corporate Sponsorship section of this report.

## Future Endeavours

### **Dynamics of Critical Care 2008**

*Celebrating 25 Years of Critical Care*

*Advocacy: Past, Present & Future*

September 28-30, 2008

Montreal, Quebec

Chairperson: Asha Pereira

### **Dynamics of Critical Care 2009**

September 27-29, 2009

Fredericton, New Brunswick

Chairperson: Cecilia St. George-Hyslop

**Retention and Recruitment** will remain a major focus for the upcoming year. The Silver Anniversary Chapter Challenge is in effect until Chapter Connections Day 2008 when we hope to be able to announce a 25% increase in membership across Canada. An online member survey was conducted in March 2008 to determine what our members want from

CACCN membership. We hope to implement initiatives that will address the feedback received.

### **New Web Site**

The CACCN Board of Directors had gone through an extensive Request for Proposal (RFP) process in order to further enhance our online presence. Watch for a new web site in 2008 including a member-only area with more benefits for our membership.

### **25th Anniversary**

2008 marks the CACCN's official 25th anniversary. Join with us to celebrate this milestone by participating in the Silver Anniversary Chapter Challenge and helping us achieve the 25th growth target. Join us in Montreal at Dynamics 2008 to celebrate our



**Canadian  
Association  
of  
Critical Care  
Nurses**

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**"Dynamic Connections ...  
Making a Critical Difference"**