

NURSING LEADERSHIP
NETWORK OF ONTARIO

NLN.ON



NLN.ON President's Update December 2016

Season's Greetings to all NLN.ON members! On behalf of the NLN.ON board, we wish you joy and happiness in 2017!!

It's been a busy fall and there have been several important stories in the news for nursing. Some of this news has been unexpected and sadand some of it hopeful and inspiring! We want to share some of the highlights with you.

Judy Shearer, President of NLN.ON

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The Loss of two Great Nurse Leaders:

On a sad note, Dorothy Wylie, a well-known nursing leader, journal founder/editor, teacher and mentor, passed away Aug. 13 in her 87th year. Born in Toronto, Wylie earned her RN diploma at St. Michael's Hospital school of nursing in 1950. She went on to earn three degrees: a BScN at New York University in 1964, an MA in nursing administration at Columbia University in 1969 and an M.Sc. in human resource development at American University in 1985.

Dorothy had extensive leadership experience and was a strong supporter of nursing education. She served as president of the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario and of the College of Nurses of Ontario and as a board member of the Registered Nurses' Foundation of Ontario. She co-founded the *Canadian Journal of Nursing Leadership*. A national health leaders institute was launched in her name, the Dorothy Wylie Health Leaders Institute. Dorothy touched many lives and her passing is a significant loss to the nursing community.

Another great loss to the nursing community occurred with the passing of Dr. Heather Laschinger at age 71yrs of age. Heather was widely known for her academic work that examined the planning and management of nursing health services to ensure high-quality, safe care across nursing and health-care sectors. She was the first member of the Faculty of Health Sciences to receive Western's Distinguished University Professor Award in 2006 and was presented with the institution's Hellmuth Prize for Achievement in Research in 2010.

Heather received many awards throughout her career. She was elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences in 2008, inducted as a

fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 2009, received the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Award for Excellence in Nursing Research in 2014 and was presented with the American Organization of Nurse Executives Foundation Nurse Research Award in 2015.

Heather was a highly recognized scholar who had over 200 publications, including four books. She was a role model and mentor to many in the healthcare, academic and nursing communities. She supervised more than 100 graduate students and postdoctoral scholars. She will be greatly missed!

Nurse Practitioners Update:

Nurse Practitioners have been working in Ontario since the 1970's. The Expanded Nursing Services for Patients Act was proclaimed in 1998 following 25 years of lobbying. This allowed nurses to be registered with the College of Nurses in a new "Extended Class" encompassing additional authority to perform controlled acts and other aspects of practice not authorized to nurses registered in the general class. More recently we have been seeing Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics spring up across the province. The Nurse Practitioner Association of Ontario lists over 25 Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics (NPLC) throughout Ontario on their website. These clinics offer a range of primary health care services that help individuals and families maintain or improve their overall health. Some of the services include annual physicals, episodic illness care, falls prevention programs for older persons, immunizations, smoking cessation, injury prevention and monitoring and management of chronic diseases such as diabetes, arthritis, asthma, heart disease and mental health conditions.

NPLCs were implemented to increase access to primary health care for patients without a regular primary care provider. A positive aspect of these clinics is that they are founded in a nursing model with the patient as partner in the care process and there is an emphasis on health promotion and disease prevention. Additionally, the NPLC's have shed some positive attention on the role of the NP and increased awareness of the NP role with the public and media.

Medical Assistance in Dying:

Bill C-14, legislation on *medical assistance in dying*, received royal assent on June 17, 2016. Although this service can only be legally provided by physicians and nurse practitioners, the whole interprofessional team can be impacted by such an event. Hospitals and other healthcare organizations are preparing their policies and procedures and trying to work through some of the practical as well as moral and ethical questions that have arisen with this new legislation. As Nurses, it is important that we stay informed and continue to work together to ensure our collective voices continue to be heard around Medical Assistance in Dying. More information can be found at <http://healthycanadians.gc.ca/health-system-systeme-sante/services/end-life-care-soins-fin-vie/medical-assistance-dying-aide-medicale-mourir-eng.php> as well as through the RNAO website at www.rnao.ca .

New Membership Category for NLN.ON:

Over the past year NLN.ON board members have been approached by NLN.ON members (past and present) to explore the option of a new membership category that would allow Registered Nurses who are not member of RNAO to join NLN.ON. This required an amendment to our existing by-laws. After considerable discussion between board members and further discussion with NLN.ON membership at our 2016 AGM last March, it was decided that we would reach out to our members and share the details of a proposed by-law amendment introducing a new **“sustaining membership category”**. It was further decided that we would offer our members the option to vote for or against this new category.

On Friday, September 23, 2016 NLN.ON members were invited to participate in a Special Member’s Meeting where they were asked to cast their vote for or against a new “sustaining membership category. Voting took place “in-person” or via Proxy. A two thirds majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy was required to successfully pass the amendment, and in fact a two thirds majority of votes were in favour of the by-law amendment to add the new “Sustaining Member” category.

This sustaining member category will be initiated beginning in 2017 and the

membership year will run from January 1st to December 31st, 2017. We are now very pleased to announce that you can join as an NLN.ON "Sustaining Member" directly through the NLN.ON website by accessing our online payment portal at <http://nlm.on.ca/index.php/news/membership>. Please note as a Sustaining Member you will receive all the benefits extended to our members including special discounted registration fees to our annual conference as well as all of the communications that are sent out from the NLN.ON office.

Over the coming year the NLN.ON Board looks forward to working proactively with all interested nursing leaders to advance the issues facing our profession through proactive, collective dialogue on matters impacting the profession.

We are hopeful that many of our non-renewed or lapsed members will become a member of NLN.ON once again and we thank those who have already renewed their membership for 2017.

[NLN.ON Annual Conference:](#)

Once again we are preparing for the NLN.ON Annual Conference. This year's theme is **'Nursing Leaders: Exploring our Future in Transforming Healthcare'**. The conference will host a number of innovative and inspiring speakers! This is one of a very few conferences designed specifically for nurse leaders! It is a wonderful opportunity to share and discuss nurse driven research and celebrate the great works of colleagues across the province!

Once again the conference will be held at the Westin Prince Hotel on March 30th and 31st, 2017. Registration is open ([Click here to register](#)). Watch the NLN.ON website for further details!



The brochure features a red header with the text "2017 NLN.ON Conference Brochure". Below this, the NLN.ON logo is displayed next to the text "Annual Health Care Leaders Conference March 30th to 31st, 2017 Toronto, ON". The main title is "NURSING LEADERS: EXPLORING OUR FUTURE IN TRANSFORMING HEALTHCARE". A paragraph of text discusses the challenges of today and the opportunities for moving the nursing profession and the healthcare system forward. It mentions the "Fighting nurse leaders for 2007" and highlights essential competencies required in the future. The text also mentions "advanced technology skills, expert decision making skills based in evidence, organizational culture of quality and safety, understanding the patient processes, collaborative team building, balancing authenticity and performance expectations, and adapting to a system of rapid change and chaos." Below the text is a photograph of two nurses, one in a blue uniform and one in a white uniform, sitting at a table. To the right of the photograph is a graphic of a hand holding a tablet. At the bottom of the brochure, it states "Our host hotel is the Westin Prince Hotel, 900 York Mills, Toronto, ON" and "NLN.ON is an Associate Interest Group of RNAO".


Mentorship:

It is extremely important for nurses to have positive role models who forge ahead, break down barriers and make meaningful change in the healthcare system. As nurse leaders we must never lose sight of our ultimate goal; to advocate for what is right for our patients, communities and nursing. If you know someone who is a wonderful nurse mentor consider nominating them for the Sue Matthews Mentor Leader Award. Submit your nominations online today!

NLN.ON Research and Education Awards:

The Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario is accepting applications for the 2017 NLN.ON Research and Education Awards. Deadline for applications is February 10th, 2017.

The available awards are;

Education Awards /Grants

Two grants are available for part-time studies and one grant for full-time studies in an undergraduate nursing program or graduate program in nursing or a related field.

Part-time grant value: \$1,000.00

Full-time grant value: \$1,500.00

**Education Grant for Student Nurses**

A grant is available for a student registered full-time in an undergraduate nursing program.

Value: \$1,000.00

Dorothy Wylie Graduate Fellowship Award

A grant is available for a full-time graduate student studying in nursing or a related field.

Value: \$2,000.00



Research Award

A grant is available for nurse researchers conducting research into issues important to nurse leaders.

Potential Value: Up to \$2,000.00 (may be divided among several suitable proposals)

Sue Matthews Leader Mentor Award

Nominate a mentor in Leadership

For additional information and expectations please

Value: \$1,000.00

For more information please visit our website at www.nln.on.ca.

Inspiring and Informative Speakers:

Today's nurse leader must stay in touch with world events. More than ever our lives are impacted by global activities, social media and high profile news stories from all over the world. In this time of unlimited information flow, healthcare leaders are constantly challenged to think 'outside the box' and come up with creative and innovative solutions to many of today's most complex healthcare problems. Not surprisingly, as leaders we are influenced by the think tanks and thought provokers; the bloggers, tweeters and Facebook users as well as the many other forms of social media that we are exposed to.

In fact some would suggest that health policy is increasingly being influenced from behind the scenes and that much can be learned by examining the range of

experts, organizations, coalitions and various social media platforms where many thoughts, opinions and interactions are displayed. One such popular social media phenomena that has been garnering considerable attention is TED talks. When you google TED Talks it is described as “a nonpartisan non-profit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short, powerful talks. TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design converged, and today covers almost all topics — from science to business to global issues — in more than 110 languages” (TED, n.d). When perusing the various topics you can find a talk on just about anything. A sample smattering of the talks includes; The new power of collaboration; We need nuclear power to solve climate change; How to speak up; How humans will look in 100 years, just to name a few . Many of the talks are given by “experts” in the field and individuals who are famous or well known for their knowledge of the given topic. When searching the site using the key word ‘healthcare’ some of the following talks come up; How to do more with less; What if our healthcare system kept us healthy?; Will healthcare embrace digital or die waiting? Some of the titles under Leadership include; Tribal Leadership; How to love work again; What it takes to be a great leader, and many more (<https://www.ted.com/>). Of course, the usual critical appraisal of the information provided should be applied, but personally I have found several of the talks inspiring, motivating and thought provoking! They are worth a look in my opinion.