



RNAO

Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario
L'Association des infirmières et infirmiers
autorisés de l'Ontario

RNAO'S

88th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PRESIDENT'S BANQUET

APRIL 12, 2013

VISION
A R Y
LEADER
S H I P

CHARTING A COURSE FOR THE FUTURE OF NURSING

PROGRAM

Welcoming Remarks

Presentation of RNAO
Recognition Awards

Presentation of RNAO
Media Awards

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is given to long-standing RNAO members who have made exceptional contributions to nursing practice, education, administration or research at the provincial, national or international levels. This includes activities that promote the association among nursing colleagues, the government and other health-care partners. Two nurses have been selected for recognition in this category.

JEAN
CLIPSHAM

Jean Clipsham says the *Lifetime Achievement Award* is a great way to cap off her career, and to recognize the work of all public health nurses. Throughout her 31 years of membership, and 35 years of nursing, Jean has always been actively involved in RNAO. She co-founded the association's Maternal Child Nurses' Interest Group (formerly Childbirth Nurses Interest Group) in 1986. She was also executive network officer for the Policy and Political Action Committee of the Rainbow Nursing Interest Group, which she now co-chairs. Jean currently works as a nurse practitioner at Halton Region Health Department in the Sexual Health and Needle Exchange Program. She tirelessly advocates for youth, women's health issues and marginalized groups. She is a key participant in various research projects focusing on equity and access to health care for marginalized populations. In fact, Jean has presented research findings at local, national and international conferences. She is widely recognized for her ability to positively influence community development and bring about change. This is evident in her leadership of Halton-based initiatives such as the Community Response Protocol for Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, which enables response agencies to empower assault survivors.

HELEN
TINDALE

Newly retired **Helen Tindale** considers winning the *Lifetime Achievement Award* to be the highlight of her career. She has committed 40 years of her life to nursing, and 39 to RNAO. Throughout these years, she has invested tremendous passion and energy into the promotion of public health and public health nursing. Today, she is co-president of RNAO's Wellington chapter, and a panel member for the association's *Safe Sleep Practices for Infants* best practice guideline. For almost 20 years, Helen has served on RNAO's regional executive. She has also served on the Ontario Public Health Association's (OPHA) board of directors. With a focus on family health, Helen regularly promotes the need to improve determinants of health through the media, and as a clinical lecturer at the McMaster University School of Nursing. Her mentorship is sought out

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by nursing students and nurses alike, who benefit from her pride in the profession and best practice promotion. Helen has received many accolades, including RNAO's *Award of Merit* and *Leadership Award for Political Action*. In 2002, she was the first person to be awarded the Community Health Nurses of Canada's *Award of Merit*.

AWARD OF MERIT

This award recognizes registered nurses who have made an outstanding contribution to RNAO and to the profession of nursing in Ontario. Winners demonstrate responsibility for professional development and are exemplary role models and mentors to peers. Two nurses have been selected for recognition in this category.

NANCY
WATTERS

Nancy Watters feels surprised and humbled to be recognized by her peers. For more than 40 years, as an educator, public health nurse, researcher and consultant, Nancy has maintained extraordinary commitment to her profession and association. She partners with both interest groups and the RNAO policy department to advance best practices and healthy public policy for families in Ontario and across Canada. She has served on the executive of RNAO's Maternal Child Nurses' Interest Group as policy and political action officer, chair elect, chair, and past president, and was Region 10 Representative on RNAO's board of directors. Nancy teaches in the undergraduate nursing program at the University of Ottawa. She continues to build on her 14 years with Ottawa Public Health as a part-time public health nurse with the *Healthy Babies Healthy Children* program. She has worked on provincial and national projects related to breastfeeding and infant nutrition, and is currently a member of Health Canada's advisory group that serves to update the national guideline, *Nutrition for Healthy Term Infants*. Nancy continues to be an enthusiastic and helpful mentor, and consistently recruits and supports undergraduate students to join RNAO.

JANICE
WADDELL

Janice Waddell says she is honoured to be nominated for this award, especially since the nomination comes from students - nursing's future leaders. As the associate dean for Ryerson University's Faculty of Community Services, Janice teaches in the graduate program, with a focus on leadership in nursing education. She is a faculty advisor and thesis supervisor to graduate students. Daily, she offers encouraging support and calm mentorship to prepare countless students, new graduates and registered nurses to practise in their

field. The long-time RNAO member's special research interest is career planning and development. Janice regularly presents her evidence-based career planning and development workshops at Canadian Nursing Students' Association (CNSA) conferences on a voluntary basis, where she promotes the benefits of RNAO membership and interest groups to students. She is no stranger to awards, earning an *Honorary Membership* from the CNSA, and getting the Ryerson University *Provost's Innovative Teaching Award* in 2012. Janice's academic accomplishments and commitment to Ryerson students' overall professional growth makes her a strong, positive, influential force within the nursing profession.

HUB FELLOWSHIP

Sponsored by HUB, RNAO's home and auto insurance provider, this award offers the recipient the chance to participate in a week-long, one-on-one placement with RNAO Chief Executive Officer Doris Grinspun.

SUE GRAFE

Sue Grafe knows this award means moving beyond what she's done in the past, and looking towards the future, and a broader picture of nursing. Inspired by RNAO's work, she wants to do her part to bring change to the health-care system at the policy level. After 23 years in nursing, 13 as a nurse practitioner in downtown Hamilton, Sue is aware of the social and health-care inequalities that permeate all parts of the province, and impact on the health of people. Driven by a confidence that nursing is the bridge to both understanding and change, Sue is currently undertaking a Masters of Nursing at McMaster University. While studying, she continues to lead a health-care team at Hamilton Urban Core Community Health Centre. Sue is interested in exploring the nursing role for refugees and newcomers, and is employed by the Hamilton Centre for Newcomer Health. In this role, she spearheaded an initiative to build a sustainable model for refugee health care. She is also heavily involved in a school-based pilot project. Sue helped set up health-care centres in two of Hamilton's high needs schools to improve the health and well-being of at-risk students and their families.

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP IN CLINICAL NURSING PRACTICE

This award recognizes staff nurses who consistently demonstrate expertise and evidence-based practice in one or more areas of clinical practice. Winners demonstrate nursing leadership in their workplaces and influence change for the betterment of patients, families and/or communities. Two nurses have been selected for recognition in this category.

CAROL
YANDRESKI

Carol Yandreski says she is honoured to have been nominated for this award by one of her mentors and a former nursing professor. She says it is a privilege to be among so many talented nurses who have won before her. Carol is a public health nurse and school board liaison on the Healthy Schools Team at Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (SMDHU). This former president of RNAO's Community Health Nurses' Initiatives Group (CHNIG) has a keen interest in mental health promotion, healthy schools, and child and youth development. She is particularly interested in the role public health plays to promote better mental health in schools. As liaison for her local boards of education, Carol has been instrumental in the development of the health unit's school health program. She is an advocate for the role of public health nurses in schools, and facilitates collaboration between health and education professionals to create integrated, holistic services and strategies that help children and youth develop to their full potential.

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HEATHER
CAMPBELL

Heather Campbell says winning this award has given her the chance to reflect on the many opportunities she's had during her nursing career. Currently director of nursing practice and education at Toronto's St. Michael's Hospital (SMH), Heather champions SMH's Best Practice Spotlight Organization designation and was a key player in developing a role dedicated to the implementation, sustainability and evaluation of RNAO BPGs. She has ensured staff nurses from each program are represented on the hospital's Nursing Advisory Council, and was instrumental in mentoring her staff to make sure nurse practitioners at SMH are practising to their full scope. As someone who is committed to life-long learning, Heather frequently shadows staff nurses to gain a better sense of their day-to-day work. She is described by her nominators as a hardworking and passionate leader who carries out her work with an understated elegance. She is a humble person who does not flaunt her work, her nominators add. Instead, she gives credit to her team.

DAILY NEWSPAPER

DAILY NEWSPAPER – BEST IN-DEPTH FEATURE

Matthew Pearson, *Ottawa Citizen*

“Jamie, then and now”

MATTHEW
PEARSON

Much like many other health-related stories, *Jamie, then and now* was a difficult but necessary one to tell, says writer **Matthew Pearson**. His winning feature takes an introspective look into Jamie Hubley’s life, and the bigger picture of youth mental health. In October 2011, Hubley, 15, took his own life. His family was plunged into the media spotlight during their darkest hour, and used their immense grief as a motivating force to raise awareness about – and nearly \$1 million for – teen mental health initiatives in Ottawa. Matthew hopes his article is an example of what top-notch health reporting should be: accurate, effective, insightful, and rich with human experience. Since completing his Master of Journalism at Carleton University, he has worked for *CBC*, the *Victoria Times Colonist*, and the *Ottawa Citizen*, where he currently covers education.

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER – BEST IN-DEPTH FEATURE

Abigail Cukier, *Stoney Creek News*

"A peaceful place to rest"

ABIGAIL
CUKIER

Abigail Cukier saw, firsthand, the importance of palliative care during her father's illness – and subsequent passing – in 2010. Carrying that experience with her, she wanted to write a series of feature articles that emphasized the significant role palliative care staff play when easing a patient's life to a serene end. That's how *A peaceful place to rest* was born. By telling the story of the Dr. Bob Kemp Centre for Hospice Palliative Care, which is based in Hamilton, she hoped to illuminate the value such homes add to patients and their family members. Abigail believes health reporting can help readers learn about the workings of the health-care system in a way that educates and even saves lives. She spent a decade working at the *Stoney Creek News* – including six years as editor – and is now a reporter at a new, online business news service called *Your Hamilton Biz*. She's also a freelance writer for parenting, medical and women's publications.

MAGAZINE

MAGAZINE – BEST STORY

Kate Lunau and Martin Patriquin, *Maclean's*
"Asking for an outbreak"

KATE
LUNAU

MARTIN
PATRIQUIN

Health is a topic that intimately affects all of us, and yet certain aspects - whether it's the workings of the health-care system, or the latest study on a new treatment or drug - can feel inaccessible at times. In their winning piece, **Kate Lunau** and **Martin Patriquin** explore the importance of vaccination by telling the story of a recent measles outbreak in Quebec, called the worst in the Americas in 20 years. The outbreak was blamed on falling vaccination rates, a public health issue that isn't unique to just Quebec. Kate and Martin agree that by using expert commentary, new research, and above all, good storytelling, health reporting can create a window into important and sometimes controversial issues. Kate is associate editor at *Maclean's*, where she covers topics including health and science. Before joining this national magazine, she was a city reporter at the *Montreal Gazette*. Martin is the Quebec bureau chief for *Maclean's*.

TELEVISION

TELEVISION – BEST IN-DEPTH FEATURE

Beatrice Politi, *Global News/Shaw Media*
"Male infertility"

BEATRICE
POLITI

Beatrice Politi says that if she can help to educate, inform, assist or encourage even one viewer to find a way to better health, then she's done her job. As *Global Ontario's* health specialist, she has done just that in her winning entry, an hour-long special on male infertility. This is a story with many nuances. It's a subject that isn't regularly talked about or explored in the media. For these reasons, Beatrice says she is delighted it has picked up a *Media Award*. Beatrice has tackled many other stories in her 13-year career, including: the SARS outbreak, a new surgical technique that enables some people with spinal cord injuries to walk again, and the small percentage of people who develop serious complications from H1N1. She's served as parliamentary reporter for *CityTV*, *CP24* and *Ottawa's A-Channel*. She's worked in her current role at *Global* since 2007. In her daily segment, Beatrice files health stories for local and cross-country viewers. She is also a correspondent for *Global's* weekly news magazine program, *16x9*.

TELEVISION – BEST NEWS STORY

Avis Favaro and Elizabeth St. Philip, *CTV National News*
“A city’s pain”

AVIS
FAVARO

ELIZABETH
ST. PHILIP

A rash of teen suicides in Sarnia, and the resulting devastation for families and the community at large, touched **Avis Favaro** and **Elizabeth St. Philip** profoundly. They hoped by sharing this story with a national audience, the growing problems of bullying, mental illness among our youth, and the need for more support and resources within both schools and communities, would be brought to the forefront. Both are no strangers to covering health-care issues. Avis, *CTV’s* medical/health correspondent, joined the *CTV* news team in 1992. She has reported on health issues ranging from medical errors, novel cancer therapies, and experimental treatments for multiple sclerosis. Elizabeth joined *CTV* in 2001 and is the senior medical producer for *CTV National News*. Both have covered a host of health stories for national news and the current affairs show, *W5*.

RADIO

RADIO – BEST IN-DEPTH FEATURE

Victoria Mattan, *106.9 The XFM*
“Organ donation awareness”

VICTORIA
MATTAN

During her time as a student in the broadcast journalism program at the University of Western Ontario/Fanshawe College, **Victoria Mattan** explored her personal doubts about organ donation, turning her research into a story that aired on the college’s radio station, *106.9 The XFM*. After probing the issue, she says she’s gained a deeper understanding of the importance and implications of giving the often-dubbed “gift of life.” Victoria is thrilled to have helped listeners better understand this topic. She says winning an *RNAO Media Award* has left her feeling truly honoured, and has heightened her ambition to continue reporting on health and health-care issues. A recent graduate, Victoria is currently working as a reporter with *CTV News* in London.

EXCEPTIONAL REPORTING ON AN RN/NURSING ISSUE

White Coat, Black Art, CBC Radio
"The DNR discussion"

The team at CBC Radio's *White Coat, Black Art* has been selected for exceptional reporting for its coverage of an issue that impacts many, but it's a topic few are willing to confront openly: DNR (do not resuscitate). The group says it's proud the weekly show helps to demystify health and health-care matters, saying the importance of covering health issues cannot be underestimated.

BRIAN
GOLDMAN

Host Brian Goldman is a veteran ER physician and an award-winning medical reporter for CBC Television's *The Health Show* and *The National*. He is also the author of *The Night Shift*, *Real Life in the Heart of the ER*, and is working on his second book.

DAWNA
DINGWALL

Senior Producer Dawna Dingwall joined the *White Coat, Black Art* team after spending eight seasons producing documentaries and interviews for the CBC Radio program *Dispatches*.

KENT
HOFFMAN

Producer Kent Hoffman has worked on CBC Radio programs *As It Happens*, *The World This Weekend*, *Sounds Like Canada*, and *Cross Country Checkup*.

ONLINE

ONLINE – BEST STORY

Ann Silversides, *Canadian Women's Health Network*
"Mammography screening: weighing the pros and cons
for women's health"

ANN
SILVERSIDES

Ann Silversides knew her feature on mammography screening was controversial. While writing it, she had to contend with the fact that new research on the pros and cons of mammography is continually forthcoming. She's proud that the final story lays out the complicated issues in an accessible way. Health care is full of vested interests, she says, and practitioners can become accustomed to the status quo. This is why she thinks careful, well-researched and probing health reporting, which can help guide citizens through the issues, is so

important. Silversides, who admires Canada's dedicated women's health activists, contributed a chapter to *The Push to Prescribe, Women & Canadian Drug Policy*. A long-time health policy journalist, she writes features for the Canadian website healthydebate.ca, and recently published a feature on a coroner's inquest into OxyContin-related deaths in *Maisonneuve* magazine.

ONLINE – BEST STORY

Julia Belluz, *Maclean's*

"Is Canada discriminating against foreign-trained doctors?"

JULIA
BELLUZ

Julia Belluz believes the media play a critical role in informing the public - patients, practitioners, and policy makers - about health. In her winning story, she asks questions about how fair Canada's health system is towards foreign-trained health professionals, and whether the systems we have in place to support them are sufficient enough. She hopes her report initiates actions to improve the orientation of internationally trained health professionals who dedicate themselves to work in Canada. Julia is senior editor at the *Medical Post*, an independent newspaper and online information source for Canada's doctors. She is also a regular contributor to *Maclean's*. Julia works to improve the discourse about health and science in the media with her column *Science-ish*, a joint project of *Maclean's*, the *Medical Post*, and the *McMaster Health Forum*.

JUDGES

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Paul-André Gauthier, *RNAO Board Member*

Karen Beckermann

Crystal Culp

Josephine Dalmacio

Mirna Iskandar

Charlene Schiffer

Debra Williams-Conliffe

JUDGES

RNAO Media Awards

Steve Buist
Rebecca Cosby
Beth Cowper-Fung
Sandi Dennison
Cathie Gernaey
Jill King
Marisa Kucha
Susan Tam
May Tao
Jennifer Tonn

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