

ONTARIO CORRECTIONAL NURSES'

INTEREST GROUP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 3

FALL 2014

OCNIG

EXECUTIVE

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Evelyn Wilson

Past President:

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Elzar Sipin

Communication ENO:

Shirley Kennedy

Membership/Finance ENO:

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Roode (Federal)

Annette Buzdygan
(Provincial)

Mentor:

Ian Clarke (Mentor)

Nursing Student:

Elise Skinner

A Message from the Co-Chair

Greetings OCNIG members!

As the lazy days of summer become a memory, we are gearing up to meet the demands of the coming months. For many of you, the focus has been getting little ones off to school. For some it may be registering for your own continuing education courses, possibly working towards specialty certification. Perhaps your focus will be something for your own pleasure and well-being like yoga, hockey or joining a book club. I wish you all good luck with your endeavours.

Our OCNIG executive have been busy! Ian Clarke attended an information session at York University's BScN orientation with a great turn out and lots of interest in our rather unique nursing environment!

The revamped OCNIG bylaws were voted on by the membership and approved. We are organizing OCNIG's first *Nursing in Custody* educational conference to be held in Hamilton in early December with a focus on making the conference affordable and relevant to nurses working with clients in custody. Once we have the details firmed up, we will be sending you an email with registration information!

Our Annual General Meeting for all members will be held November 14th at East Side Mario's—Appleby Line in Burlington (see page 3 for details). Please plan to attend and enjoy a free Italian dinner and fellowship with other correctional nurses! The meeting will be an excellent opportunity to share your expectations with us and we will be looking to elect new members to the executive; nomination forms will be forthcoming.

Becoming involved and having a say as an executive member of an interest group that advocates for the needs of nurses working

with adults and youth in custody settings has been very rewarding for me. In 2011, I became involved in OCNIG because I wanted to help raise the profile of correctional nurses in a positive manner. I wanted to support and help create educational opportunities that would support nurses working in the correctional environment. Becoming involved in OCNIG has allowed me to do those things.

OCNIG has helped increase awareness of correctional nurses and is beginning to validate correctional nursing as a specialty; one that well-honed assessment skills, teaching skills, and communication skills are required on a daily basis. Over the last 3 years it has been gratifying to see OCNIG develop. It is satisfying to network with nurses from the federal and provincial system (both youth and adult), and with nurses working in forensic settings, and it is exciting to connect with nursing students who see things in such a positive light and who bring so much enthusiasm to the table. I was worried that taking on an executive role might be challenging in regards to the time commitment but I have learned that the time commitment is reasonable and with our flexible and cohesive team, the job gets done and we continue to grow stronger as a group.

I hope to see some of you at the AGM in November and the educational day in December. I encourage you to contact us at ontariocorrectional-nurses@gmail.com with any questions, suggestions or information that may benefit our membership and I encourage you to follow us on Facebook.

Evelyn Wilson
OCNIG Co-Chair



"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual."
V. Lombardi

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORRECTIONAL NURSES

It is hard to believe that the 2014 membership year will soon be drawing to a close. The OCNIG Executive hopes that it was a professionally successful and personally rewarding year for each of our members. The membership in our Interest Group continues to grow and with increased membership there is increased opportunity! OCNIG is your voice for correctional nursing in Ontario and for the upcoming year OCNIG has executive positions open for election. OCNIG works collaboratively with RNAO in providing and shaping the support needed by correctional nurses in the province and this is your opportunity to be involved. As a member of the Executive Committee you will have an opportunity to:

- Contribute to the provincial discussion on correctional nursing;
- Support and promote current and new correctional nursing initiatives;
- Support the work underway with the Canadian Nurses' Association to recognize Correctional Nursing as a specialty through certification;
- Represent the correctional nursing interest at conferences, political events and provincial meetings;
- Network with correctional nurses from across the province;
- Be mentored by senior correctional nursing leaders; and
- Develop your leadership skills with the full support of the RNAO and the OCNIG Executive Committee.

Elections for OCNIG leadership positions will be held during the OCNIG AGM on November 14, 2014.

The term of office is two years.

The time commitment is approximately one hour per month.

Each position has the full support and mentorship of past committee members.



Watch for the nomination package that will be emailed to you in the next few weeks and please take this opportunity to nominate a peer or yourself for one of the available positions.

OCNIG AGM!

Annual General Member's Meeting

(dinner included)

November 14, 2014 at 1830 hours

East Side Mario's Restaurant

2000 Appleby Line, Burlington

This AGM is an excellent opportunity to network with peers, and support the work of your executive committee. Dinner is included (beverages excluded). We hope that a good majority of our membership will be able to join us! Please see the agenda below:

2014 OCNIG AGM Agenda

November 14, 2014 1830-2100 hours

1. Opening Remarks and Introductions
2. Dinner
3. 2013-2014 OCNIG Annual Report
4. Elections: President Elect and Members-at-Large
5. Member's Voices
6. Strategic Plan

We need to confirm numbers with the restaurant so please RSVP by
Monday, November 10th to:

ontariocorrectionalnurses@gmail.com

10% discount for Ontario Correctional Nurses—use Promo Code P14C05OCN when registering!

DON'T MISS THE INTERACTIVE PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE \$452

PRESENTING THE 2ND ANNUAL

National Correctional Services Healthcare Conference

November 27th-28th, 2014 | Sheraton Hotel Ottawa

PLUS: Pre conference workshops Wednesday November 26th, 2014



25+ SPEAKERS INCLUDING:

Howard Sapers, Correctional Investigator of Canada, Office of the Correctional Investigator, CA

Kate Davies, Head of Public Health, Health and Justice Commissioning, NHS, England UK

Iain Brew, Medical Lead HM Prison Leeds, Leeds Community Healthcare, NHS Trust, UK

Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, University of Saskatchewan, SK

Ruth Elwood Martin, Collaborating Centre for Prison Health and Education SIFPUBC, BC

Colin Cameron, Royal Ottawa Healthcare Group, ON

Ken Scott, Department of Health and Wellness, Halifax, NS

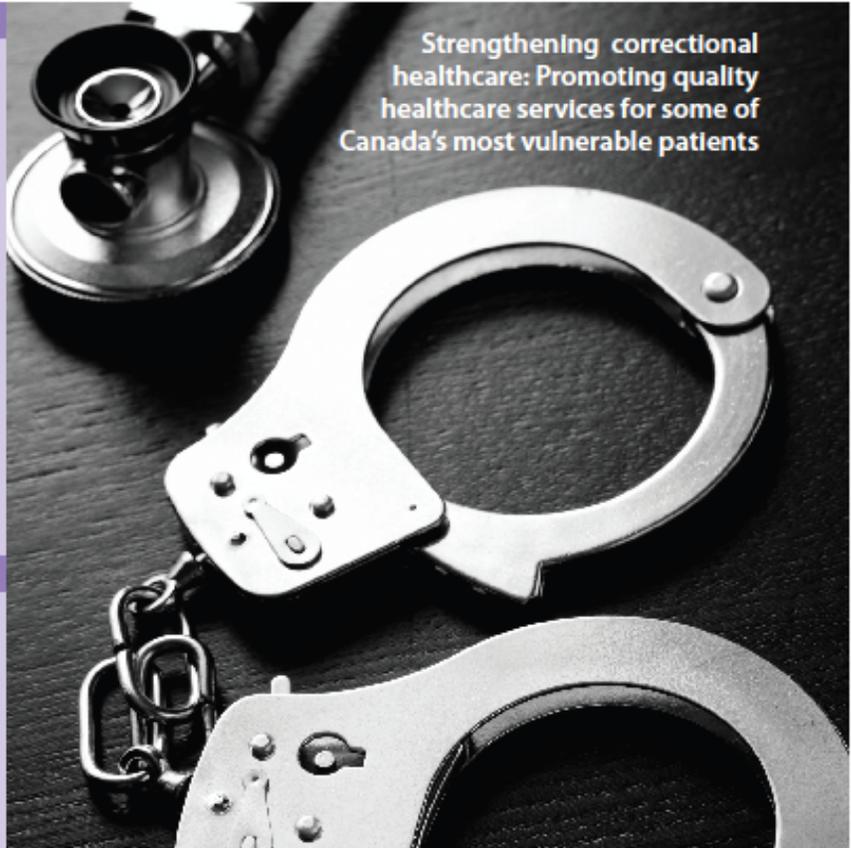
Mark Totten, Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning, Toronto, ON

Drew Kingston, University of Ottawa, ON

Dan Woods, Alberta Health Services, AB

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- Discuss safe and humane responses to managing mentally disordered offenders in a correctional context
- Learn about transitioning correctional healthcare from Justice to Health
- Hear NHS England showcase the Pathways to Health
- Understand evidence based Interventions in the correctional setting
- Explore the guiding principles and practices required for optimal child health Inside prison, beginning with pregnancy
- Attend critical workshops on suicide prevention and effective practices for supporting people with FASD



Strengthening correctional healthcare: Promoting quality healthcare services for some of Canada's most vulnerable patients

ENDORSED BY: FNESC For more information, visit us at: www.fnesc.ca



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Nursing Inside

Five Mistakes New Correctional Nurses Make *By LORRY SCHOENLY, PHD, RN*

I've worked with a lot of new correctional nurses over the years; many of them succeeded and embraced the unique nature of our specialty. Some, however, quickly abandoned their positions even before they gave themselves time to adjust to their new role. Sometimes it is just not a good fit. For example, some nurses just can't bear to hear the bars click shut behind them when they enter the sally port after security clearance. However, many times nurses make preventable mistakes that land them in trouble on the 'inside'. Based on my experiences, here is a list of common mistakes nurses can make in their first correctional position.

1. Not paying attention to security procedure

Many seasoned correctional nurses will tell you that working behind bars is one of the safest jobs around. In fact, correctional nurses have more security presence than most emergency rooms or mental health units in traditional settings. That being said, nurses must know the security procedures and follow them. For example, nurses need to know where officers are located and how to activate the alarm system. We also need to let others know where we are headed and when we expect to return when moving within the various facility areas. And, whenever possible, travel with someone else. Nurses who don't pay attention to security procedure can find themselves vulnerable to injury or assault.



2. Disrespecting correctional officers

Correctional officers are professionals, too, and deserve civil and respectful treatment. Nurses who are arrogant or act superior to their correctional colleagues don't last in the specialty. We may come from different worldviews and we may have differing opinions, but both professions have a vital role in the facility. The happiest correctional nurses are those who build collegial relationships with the officers with whom they work.

3. Not treating the inmates like patients

Some nurses enter the correctional setting and find affinity with the officer role, even identifying with it. These nurses easily absorb the jail culture and abandon their nursing perspective. In a poor environment, this can easily degenerate into a cynical and punitive attitude toward the patient population. Research into correctional nurse working styles identified four types:

Idealist: Nursing perspective is a primary consideration and does not understand the security perspective

Realist: Respects the security perspective while continuing to function from a nursing perspective

Situationalist: Alternates between a security orientation and a nursing perspective depending on the situation

Acceptor: Identification with the security perspective with no application of nursing perspective while in the correctional setting
By focusing on becoming a realist, new correctional nurses can successfully navigate in the criminal justice system while providing substantive nursing care to their patients.

4. Treating the inmates like patients in other settings

This one sounds contradictory of the previous mistake but hear me out. While we must treat inmates like patients, nurses make mistakes when they treat incarcerated patients like they might a frail elderly hospitalized patient. What I mean is that the common signs of compassion and care provided in a traditional setting such as a shoulder squeeze or other touch can be misinterpreted in the correctional setting. Successful correctional nurses find other avenues to show care or concern.

5. Leaving the nursing license at the door

I know it can be hard to believe but I have seen this more than once. Nurses start working in a correctional facility and fall into practices that are definitely unsupportable to a licensing board. These practices can be as mundane as poor or missing documentation. They can also be as egregious as participating in a use of force against an inmate. A nursing license governs every employment setting, no matter how untraditional it might be. New correctional nurses are successful when they practice within their licensure requirements when 'behind the wall'.

OCNIG Supports Nursing Students

OCNIG recognizes the importance of supporting nursing students and to demonstrate that support, OCNIG has provided funding support for 30 RNAO nursing student memberships for the 2014-2015 membership year.

RNAO offers nursing student members various opportunities:

- RNAO Board of Directors Student Placements;
- RNAO clinical placement opportunities are offered to students in undergraduate and graduate programs who have placement hours to complete as part of their program curriculum; and
- RNAO Student Liaisons represent RNAO at their nursing schools by promoting student membership and RNAO initiatives.

RNAO membership also provides a number of valuable benefits for nursing students including:

- Career counseling services and resources;
- Educational opportunities;
- Political influence and action;
- Information, communications and outreach;
- Networking with nursing students and RNs;
- Best Practice Guidelines (BPG); and
- Involvement at provincial, local or interest group (IG) level.



Learn more about what RNAO does for nursing students and for all members by watching “Welcome to Home Office” at: <http://prezi.com/xh1pstildrca/welcome-to-rnao-home-office/>

Why belong to CNA?

The Canadian Nurses' Association (CNA) is a powerful, unified voice for Canada's registered nurses. CNA's strength is in the knowledge, skill and experience of their 150,000+ members and CNA works to advance the nursing profession and help improve the health of Canadians.

- CNA influences health-care decisions that affect your daily practice, shape public policy and build public awareness on the fundamental and essential role you play in good health.
- CNA advances your nursing excellence through professional development opportunities and helps you stay on top of the ever-changing world of health care.
- CNA gathers information from across Canada and provides a wealth of knowledge resources to you.

This year, membership in the Canadian Nurses' Association is optional when you renew your RNAO membership. Many correctional nurses are asking, "what's in it for me?" The decision to join or not join CNA is a very individual one but nurses should consider the benefits of CNA membership.

CNA membership entitles you to many services, special offers and discounts including:

1. A free subscription to the award-winning [Canadian Nurse](#) magazine;
2. The latest CNA and nursing news on [CNA Now e-Update](#);
3. Access to [NurseONE.ca](#) and its wealth of online resources, such as toolkits on [primary care](#) and [improving practice environments](#), the [staff mix framework](#), [clinical guidelines](#), and [much more!](#)
4. A free downloadable copy of [CNA's Code of Ethics for Registered Nurses](#) and exclusive access to "[Bringing the Code of Ethics to Life](#)" learning module;
5. Evidence-based [position statements](#) developed by subject experts and grounded in evidence;
6. [Political action tools](#) that will get your voice heard on key health issues;
7. Over \$200 in savings on the [CNA Certification Program](#) (20 nursing specialties);
8. Special rates for [continuing education courses](#), including hundreds of clinical courses;
9. Topical and insightful [live and archived webinars](#) on a range of subjects, including nurse fatigue, staff mix, RN prescribing, aboriginal health and many more;
10. [career development](#) resources that help you discover the work best-suited to your aspirations and skills;
11. CNA's [continuing competence framework](#);
12. Preferred rates on home and auto insurance with [TD Insurance Meloche Monnex](#);
13. [CNA mbna rewards MasterCard®](#);
14. Discounted membership with [CAA](#) (Canadian Automobile Association);
15. Discounts at [Mark's](#) (formerly Mark's Work Warehouse); and
16. [Travel discounts](#) from several national partners.



**CANADIAN
NURSES
ASSOCIATION**

Calendar of Events

- October 7, 2014** *Back to Basics - Chronic Disease Management 1st in 5-part series (Webinar).* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/back-basics-chronic-disease-management-series-1>
- October 14, 2014** *Back to Basics - Chronic Disease Management 2nd in 5-part series (Webinar).* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/back-basics-chronic-disease-management-series-1>
- October 21, 2014** *Back to Basics - Chronic Disease Management 3rd in 5-part series (Webinar).* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/back-basics-chronic-disease-management-series-1>
- October 24, 2014** *9th Educational Conference on Mental Health; Facets of Mental Illness Among Youth and Adults (Toronto).* To register go to: <http://careconferences.com/register-now.html>
- October 27, 2014** *Oncology Update (London).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- October 28, 2014** *Back to Basics - Chronic Disease Management 4th in 5-part series Webinar).* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/back-basics-chronic-disease-management-series-1>
- October 28, 2014** *Oncology Update (Ottawa).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- November 3, 2014** *Oncology Update (Toronto).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- November 4, 2014** *Pharmacology Update (Burlington).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- November 4, 2014** *Back to Basics - Chronic Disease Management 5th in 5-part series (Webinar).* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/back-basics-chronic-disease-management-series-1>
- November 10, 2014** *Legal Risk Management in Documentation and Charting for Nurses (Toronto).* To register, go to: http://www.osgoodepd.ca/cle/2014-2015Fiscal/2014_charting_for_nurses_nov/documents/2014_OPD_Charting_for_Nurses_OL.pdf
- November 14, 2014** *OCNIG AGM—East Side Mario's, Appleby Line, Burlington (RSVP required—please email ontarocorrectionalnurses@gmail.com)*
- November 17-21, 2014** *Mental Health & Addictions Institute (Toronto)* To register, go to: <http://rnao.ca/events/mental-health-addictions-institute>
- November 25, 2014** *Endocrinology (Toronto).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- November 27-28, 2014** *National Correctional Services Healthcare Conference.* To register, go to: www.healthcareconferences.ca/correctional2014
- December 1, 2014** *Legal Issues in Mental Health (London).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- December 2, 2014** *Legal Issues in Mental Health (Toronto).* To register, go to: www.nursinglinks.ca
- December 5, 2014** *OCNIG's 1st Annual Correctional Nursing Conference—Nursing in Custody (Hamilton).* Watch for registration information in upcoming emails and Facebook posts!