



## Rainbow Nursing Interest Group Update

January 2014

Hi everyone,

Here is an update of our group's progress and plans. Let us know what you think.

### BPG

Unfortunately we did not receive Trillium Foundation funding as our project was deemed too nursing focused. However, as a result of our efforts, we have a great collaboration between Irmajean Bajnok, Anna Travers at Rainbow Health Ontario and your RNIG executive. We can use this collaborative to move forward. Our plans are to apply to CIHR, using an academic research approach in 2014.

RNAO does not divulge our membership list to us, for confidentiality reasons, so we have no idea who our members are. But if any of you are involved in research and would like to work with us in the New Year to write this proposal, please let me know. You can reach me at [jclipsham1@cogeco.ca](mailto:jclipsham1@cogeco.ca).

### Facebook

We now have a Facebook page and intend to use it as a bulletin board in order to post important information as well as advertise events. It is listed as Rainbow Nursing Interest Group so hope to meet you there.

## Executive Changes

We are pleased to announce that Vikky Leung and Rebecca Willis will be our Communication ENOs. They are very tech savvy and will be monitoring the Facebook page as well as devising new ways to help us keep in touch,

## RNIG in each Region

The Executive believes that we can better meet the needs of our members and keep in touch by having regional representatives around the province. We are willing to support representatives with information, materials, etc. whenever there is a request for RNIG's presence. If you are interested, please let me know.

## Toronto Pride

We had a great representation at both the Trans March and the Toronto Pride parade. About 20 of us march behind the RNIG banner at the Pride parade including RNAO staff and a group of really enthusiastic nursing students, who taught us nursing cheers and really livened up the parade. I've attached a photo.

Next year is International Pride in Toronto, and we hope to work with RNAO to have a bigger presence in the parade - there has been talk of a float! Watch for updates in the coming months.



## **Staying in Touch**

We are working on several ways to keep better in touch. Besides the Facebook account we already have, you will be receiving an e-mail inviting you to join an Outlook group where we will post information about LGBTQ+ issues and activities of RNIG. We are also hoping to have some social events in the Toronto area and also sponsor some workshops and information sessions specifically for nurses. We are also working on developing a web site and would like to know if any of our members have expertise or contacts to assist us?

## **AGM Saturday May 3, 2014**

Our AGM will be held in conjunction with RNAO's Annual Assembly. We have several executive positions open and we also require a vote to change a bylaw.

Toronto Pride 2013

The Bylaw is in section B, paragraph 2 which states that “2.) No officer shall serve more than two consecutive terms in the same position, or three consecutive terms of office on the Executive Committee. Members who are ending their 3 terms must be re-nominated and re-elected in order to remain on the Executive Committee.” We would like a vote to delete the first sentence in that paragraph, thus allowing some of the present executive to continue to serve.

More information will come soon.

Thanks!

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