

RNAO's 90th Annual General Meeting April 16 – 18, 2015

Hilton Toronto, 145 Richmond Street, Toronto

Attendees are asked to refrain from wearing scent or scented products while attending RNAO AGM or associated meetings

Thursday April 16, 2015

- 3:00 – 7:00pm General Registration (**hotel main lobby**)
Mandatory Registration for Representatives (**hotel main lobby – separate registration**)
- 5:00 – 6:00pm Resolutions Session for Consultation Representatives* J. Chandler / Parliamentarian
SHERATON HOTEL (across from Hilton) in Grand Ballroom East
(* Consultation Representatives, Resolution submitters & Board members only to attend)

Opening Ceremonies and Processional, followed by Wine & Cheese Reception

- 5:55 – 6:10pm (a) Board of Directors / Minister of Health & Long Term Care / Provincial Chief Nursing Officer / PC Party Leader / NDP Health Critic / Past Presidents / Past Executive Directors / ICN President / CNA President / Lifetime Achievement Award members.
BPSO Representatives – International and Provincial – to follow processional into ballroom.
- All move to **JOHNSTON ROOM** to assemble for opening processional
- 5:45 – 6:10pm (b) Guests not participating in the opening processional are asked to move to **TORONTO BALLROOM**, and to take their seats. *Please note there will be 2-3 rows of reserved seats at the front, for processional guests/speakers, and multiple rows reserved for BPSO representatives. Thank you for your cooperation*
- 6:10 – 6:12pm Welcoming Remarks from AGM Hosts
– Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario P-A. Gauthier/E. Jensen
- 6:10 – 6:14pm Procession enters **Toronto Ballroom** (*accompanied*) VIPs
- 6:14 – 6:17pm Singing of O' Canada A. Muir
- 6:17 – 6:19pm Introduction of Dr. Vanessa Burkoski, RNAO President and Dr. Doris Grinspun, RNAO Chief Executive Officer P-A. Gauthier/E. Jensen
- 6:19 – 6:30pm Recognition of guests in the audience V. Burkoski
- 6:30 – 6:32pm Introduction of Hon. Dr. Eric Hoskins
Ontario Minister of Health & Long-Term Care V. Burkoski
- 6:32 – 6:37pm Hon. Dr. Eric Hoskins E. Hoskins
- 6:37 – 6:57pm Celebrating our BPSOs - Designation Ceremony
(*Best Practice Spotlight Organizations*) V. Burkoski, D. Grinspun, E. Hoskins,
J. Shamian, I. Bajnok, H. McConnell
- 6:57 – 6:59pm Introduction of Jim Wilson, Interim Leader – PC V. Burkoski
- 6:59 – 7:04pm Jim Wilson J. Wilson
- 7:04 – 7:06pm Introduction of France Gélinas, Health Critic – NDP V. Burkoski
- 7:06 – 7:11 pm France Gélinas F. Gélinas

7:11 – 7:13pm	Introduction of Dr. Judith Shamian, President, International Council of Nurses	V. Burkoski
7:13 – 7:18pm	Dr. Judith Shamian	J. Shamian
7:18 – 7:20pm	Introduction of Dr. Karima Velji, President, CNA	V. Burkoski
7:20 – 7:25pm	Dr. Karima Velji	K. Velji
7:25 – 7:28pm	Closing Remarks	V. Burkoski
7:28 – 7:35pm	Entertainment	
7:35 – 7:40pm	Entertainment escorts processional as it exits ballroom	VIPs
7:40 – 8:30pm	Stakeholders Wine & Cheese Reception (Toronto Ballroom Foyer) (Cash bar)	All

Friday April 17, 2015 ***Annual General Meeting 8:30am – 4:30pm***
TORONTO BALLROOM

7:30am – 3:00pm	Registration (hotel main lobby)	
8:30 – 8:45am	General Remarks (Toronto Ballroom) - Declaration of any conflict of interest - Roll Call - Minutes of 2014 AGM, presented for acceptance	V. Burkoski
8:45 – 9:30am	CEO Report	D. Grinspun
9:30 – 9:50am	Finance Committee Report - Audited Financial Statements	Chair – C. Timmings Partner, KPMG LLP
9:50 – 10:00am	Provincial Nominations Committee Report	Chair – R. Seidman-Carlson
10:00 – 10:10am	Provincial Resolutions Committee Report - <i>2015 Proposed Resolutions will be discussed at afternoon Consultation Session</i>	Chair – J. Chandler
10:10 – 10:15am	Bylaws Committee Report	Chair – D. Wood
10:15 – 10:35am	Break and Exhibits (in Foyer, Tom Thomson, Carmichael & Jackson rooms) - RNAO 90 years of history (in Varley room)	
10:35 – 11:00am	<u>Election Results:</u> - Governance items (<i>other than nominations to Board of Directors</i>) - Board of Directors' nominations & Committee nominations	V. Burkoski R. Seidman-Carlson
11:00am	CLOSE OFFICIAL AGM BUSINESS	V. Burkoski
11:00am – 12:15pm	Members' Voices	All
12:15 – 2:00pm	LUNCH BREAK View Exhibits (Foyer, Tom Thomson, Carmichael & Jackson rooms) - RNAO 90 years of history (in Varley room)	
12:30 – 2:00pm	Leadership Lunch <i>(If you have purchased a ticket, you will be walking to the St. Andrew's Club & Conference Centre, on University Avenue and King, in the Sun Life Financial Tower. RNAO Staff will be pleased to guide/accompany you)</i>	

12:30 – 2:00pm	<p>Leadership Lunch Welcoming remarks: Akuah Frempong, Board Member, Nursing Students of Ontario "Eradicating Poverty in Ontario: Awareness, Empathy and Action" Guest speaker: Jennifer Johnston, Past-President, Windsor-Essex Chapter</p> <p><u>Presentation of RNAO Recognition Awards*</u> - Leadership Award in Student Mentorship - Student of Distinction (* please refer to this Program of Events for details on the winners)</p>	V. Burkoski
<hr/>		
2:00 – 2:02pm	<p>Recall Meeting to Order - Declaration of any conflict of interest</p>	V. Burkoski
2:02 – 3:00pm	<p>CONSULTATION SESSION - 2015 Proposed Resolutions</p>	V. Burkoski Chair, J. Chandler
3:00 – 3:30pm	<p><u>Presentation of RNAO Recognition Awards*</u> - Leadership Award in Nursing Administration - Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Academic) - Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Staff Development) - Leadership Award in Nursing Research - Leadership Award in Political Action - Leadership Award in BPG Implementation - Chapter of the Year Award - Interest Group of the Year Award (* please refer to this Program of Events for bios of the winners)</p>	V. Burkoski & D. Grinspun
3:30 – 4:10pm	<p>Acclaimed\Elected Candidates, 2015-2016 Board of Directors</p>	Candidates
4:10 – 4:25pm	<p>President's Report</p>	V. Burkoski
4:25 – 4:27pm	<p>2016 AGM Hosts – RNAO Toronto West, Region 6</p>	P. Manuel
4:27 – 4:30pm	<p>Closing Remarks and Adjournment</p>	V. Burkoski

PLEASE CLEAR THE ROOM PROMPTLY – thank you!

6:00 – 7:00pm	<p>President's Reception - <i>Cash bar</i> (Toronto Ballroom Foyer)</p>
7:00 – 9:30pm	<p>Annual President's Banquet ~ A Swingin' Soiree Celebration and presentation of RNAO Awards (Toronto Ballroom)</p>

Continued....

Saturday, April 18, 2015

8:00 – 11:00 am (unless otherwise noted)

Interest Groups Meetings in various meeting rooms – and will be signposted on the day

Group Name	Meeting Space
Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario (CNSAO)	Carmichael
Community Health Nurses' Initiatives Group (CHNIG)	Harris/Macdonald
Complementary Therapies Nurses' Interest Group (CTNIG)	Jackson
International Nursing Interest Group (INIG)	Lismer
Maternal Child Nurses' Interest Group (MCNIG)	Opus
Men in Nursing Interest Group (MINIG)	RNAO Home Office
Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario (NPAO)	Osgoode East
Nurses Leadership Network of Ontario (NLN)	Tom Thomson
Nursing Students of Ontario (NSO)	RNAO Home Office
Ontario Campus Health Nursing Association (OCNA)	University
Ontario Nurses for the Environment Interest Group (ONEIG)	Adelaide
Parish Nursing Interest Group (PNIG) Begins at 7:45 a.m.	Richmond
Pediatric Nurses Interest Group (PedNIG)	Governor General Main
Provincial Nurse Educators Interest Group (PNEIG)	Osgoode West
Rainbow Nursing Interest Group (RNIG)	Fitzgerald
Staff Nurse Interest Group (SNIG)	Governor General Parlour

Closing Keynote Presentation – TORONTO BALLROOM

11:30am – 12:30pm

Panel Discussion: “End of Life Care: Voices and Perspectives”

Introduction of Panelists – D. Grinspun

Moderator: Carol Goar, Columnist at *Toronto Star*

Rahool Agarwal, Associate, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

Vanessa Burkoski, RNAO President

Lesley Hirst, President, Palliative Care Nurses Interest Group

Michelle O'Rourke, Delegate of Parish Nursing Interest Group, and Author

Maureen Taylor, Widow of Dr. Don Low

Prof. Dr. Peter Van Bogaert, Division of Nursing & Midwifery Science, Antwerp University, Belgium

Moderator, **Carol Goar**, has been a journalist for more than 35 years. She has worked for a variety of newspapers, news services and magazines on Parliament Hill in Washington and in Toronto.

Since joining the *Toronto Star* in 1982, Carol has served as the newspaper's national affairs columnist, U.S. bureau chief and editorial page editor.

Carol now writes a column three times a week highlighting issues that seldom make headlines; poverty, homelessness, racism, precarious employment, mental health, income polarization and the efforts of community volunteers and non-profit agencies to create a fairer society.

Rahool Agarwal is a litigator practising in the Toronto office of Norton Rose Fulbright. His practice focuses on complex corporate and commercial litigation, including contractual disputes, shareholder disputes, class actions, defamation claims and injunctions.

Rahool also has extensive experience in constitutional law and public law. He has acted as lead counsel in cases involving the constitutionality of a safe injection site, discrimination against learning disabled students in the public school system, the application of state immunity in response to allegations of torture and physician discretion in the withdrawal of life-sustaining treatment. He is currently acting for the Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario and the Canadian Association of Health Care Centres in an appeal relating to changes to the Interim Federal Health Program.

Rahool has argued cases at all levels of court in Ontario, the Quebec Court of Appeal and four cases in the Supreme Court of Canada.

In November 2011, Rahool was named "Young Practitioner of the Year" by the South Asian Bar Association of Toronto. In June 2013, he was awarded a "Precedent Setter Award" by the legal publication *Precedent Magazine*.

Dr. Vanessa Burkoski is the Vice President/Chief Nursing Executive, Quality, Patient Safety, & Professional Scholarly Practice at London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC). She is accountable for the overall leadership, strategic direction and management of professional practice, quality and patient safety. Vanessa has extensive experience providing executive leadership, strategic advice and nursing expertise on a wide range of nursing and broader health-care policy issues.

As the longest serving Provincial Chief Nursing Officer, Vanessa's role was to provide strategic policy advice to the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. She is responsible for conceptualizing and facilitating the implementation of a wide-range of evidence-based, innovative program and policy initiatives such as, the Personal Digital Assistant program, Ontario Nursing Workforce Alliance, and Long-Term Care - Emergency Mobile Response Program. Vanessa continues to provide nursing leadership through her active involvement on several provincial, national, and international steering committees, working groups, and advisory committees.

Vanessa is passionate about evidence-based practice and the creation of an engaging, healthy, and scholarly practice environment in which health professionals can maximize their contribution to patient quality and safety, and improve organization and system outcomes.

Vanessa is a Registered Nurse and holds a BScN, MScN, NP-PHC and Doctorate in Health Administration. She is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Windsor and holds an Adjunct Academic Appointment in Nursing at the University of Western Ontario. She is the current RNAO President, and co-chair of the NPAO NP-Admit/Discharge Expert Panel. Vanessa was awarded the 2012 Margret Comack National Award of Excellence in Nursing Leadership.

Lesley Hirst is a British-trained nurse celebrating 25 years in nursing this July. Her Oncology and Palliative Care experience spans over 19 years working in senior leadership and advanced practice roles. Lesley's most recent roles include Executive Director at Carpenter Hospice, and Director of Clinical Management and Quality for a community nursing agency. She is currently the clinical lead for the development of new Cancer Clinics within an acute care hospital.

Lesley holds a Master of Nursing Nurse Practitioner degree and a Master of Science degree in Oncology and Palliative Care. Her academic work includes faculty positions at Conestoga College and Mohawk McMaster Institute of Applied Sciences and a previous collaborative position at the Leslie Dean faculty of pharmacy at the University of Toronto.

Lesley is considered an expert in her field having presented and consulted locally and nationwide on issues relating to Oncology and Palliative care. Heavily passionate about advocating for nursing and palliative care, she is the founding and current president of the RNAO Palliative Care Nurses Interest Group and the co-chair of the Standards Council with Hospice Palliative Care Ontario. Recently Lesley was a member of the working group that revised the Canadian Hospice Palliative Care Association's Norms of Practice.

Particular areas of interest and expertise include legislation and regulation relating to palliative care and policy and governance. Publications include a palliative care pocket guide for nurses, as well as many articles and newsletters.

Michelle O'Rourke has worked as a Registered Nurse for thirty-five years, primarily in Critical Care and Emergency. While always maintaining a nursing position, she enjoyed 14 years providing pastoral care in a large urban parish, eventually becoming the Lay Ministry Specialist for the RC Diocese of London. Thesis work for her Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry reflected her interest in spirituality and palliative care and was published in 2009. *Befriending Death: Henri Nouwen and a Spirituality of Dying* (Orbis Books, NY) has sold over 5,000 copies worldwide to date.

Michelle currently coordinates a national certificate program preparing registered nurses for the specialty field of Parish Nursing. She is very involved in many Erie St. Clair LHIN initiatives regarding Advance Care Planning, Health Care Consent and Palliative Care. In 2014 she accepted a position as Director of Hospice Services for the new Chatham-Kent Hospice, a 10-bed residential facility being built in Chatham and slated to open in late 2015.

In 2012, she published her second book with co-author Eugene Dufour. *Embracing the End of Life: Help for Those Who Accompany the Dying* (Novalis, Toronto) is a practical guide filled with inspirational stories, self-reflective questions and information for understanding end-of-life issues. Their book has been favourably reviewed in the *Journal of Palliative Care*, and won a first place award from the North American Catholic Press Association.

Michelle is an active member of RNAO, being a member of both the Parish Nurse and Palliative Care Nurse Interest Groups, and on the executive of the Chatham-Kent Chapter. She enjoys speaking and teaching, and has facilitated many workshops across Canada and the US in the areas of dying, grief, self-care and spirituality at end of life. In 2013 she was a recipient of the Chatham-Kent Health Alliance Tri-Board Award of Excellence, a highlight in her nursing career.

Maureen Taylor is a Physician Assistant in Infectious Diseases at Toronto East General Hospital, and an Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Family Medicine at McMaster University. Prior to her studies as a PA, Maureen was a broadcast journalist for 25 years, including seven years as the National Medical/Health Reporter for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Maureen is a three-time winner of the CMA/CNA awards for excellence in health reporting. Maureen was married to microbiologist and infectious disease expert Dr. Donald Low, who was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumour in the winter of 2013. He died seven months later. Since then, Maureen has publicly advocated for the right of terminally ill Canadians to choose an assisted death.

Dr. Peter Van Bogaert is a registered nurse and has a bachelor degree in nursing sciences (St. Vincentius, Antwerp, Belgium, 1983), a master degree in sciences (University of Ghent Belgium, 1989) and a doctoral degree in medical sciences (University of Antwerp Belgium, 2009). He has more than 30 years experience in acute health care (Antwerp University Hospital Belgium) as a nurse (1983); a nurse manager (1990); a director of nursing (2000); and a researcher (2012), respectively. He is chairman of the *Department of Midwifery and Nursing Sciences* since October 2010. As chairman of the research group *Centre for Research and Innovation in Care* (CRIC), he is responsible for the development and evaluation of regional, national and international scientific collaboration. He supervised various courses in the master programme Nursing and Midwifery Sciences (management and innovation 20 ECTS, transmurale care delivery 5 ECTS, quality of care and patient safety 5 ECTS). In addition, he is a member of the Belgian Board of Quality of Nursing Care (chair of the committee Nursing Quality Indicator Development), member of the Nursing Quality Indicators for Reporting and Evaluation (NQuIRE) International Advisory Committee, Registered Nurses' Association Ontario, and associate editor of the *Canadian Journal of Nursing Research*.

His research topics are nurse practice environments and psychosocial environments of health-care workers, implementation of improvement initiatives and quality, patient safety and nurse managers' role in acute health-care settings. He is the supervisor of five doctoral projects (one completed).

RNAO RECOGNITION AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT FRIDAY LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

Leadership Award in Student Mentorship

This award is given to the RN who practises excellence as a nursing educator or preceptor in a health-care organization. This individual enhances the image of nursing by encouraging critical thinking, innovation and debate about important nursing issues, and acts as a role model and mentor.

As a master's student (now finishing up her second master's degree), **Dania Versailles** is no stranger to the challenges of academic life. In fact, she says her first-hand knowledge of the pressures placed on students is what feeds her passion to be a great mentor. Dania has been helping to shape the experiences of young nurses for 14 years, at one time as a clinical placement co-ordinator, and now mentoring master's students as a clinical nurse specialist in the mental health program at Hôpital Montfort in Ottawa. Her goal with each student she mentors is to make mental health nursing more appealing, less feared and better understood as a specialty. Dania says that many students are scared away by the "ugly" side of nursing in this sector, and her primary goal is to shift their thinking to realize just how much it has to offer. "I want to share with them how to interpret the world they work in so they can find the good in every situation," Dania says. "You can make or break their career even before they graduate. When they're doing clinical placement, it's the last chance to get really hooked on the profession." Dania wants to leave them thinking "this career is great." With a philosophy to be "as visible as possible," Dania invites students into her workplace, but also makes a point to meet them where they are; in the classroom. Through a joint appointment, she has been visiting master's students in the classroom for the past two years.

Student of Distinction

This award honours a nursing student who is a role model for professionalism and contributes to the advancement of RNAO/NSO within his/her nursing program. This student also acts as a resource for other nursing students.

If **Susan Chan** had her way, every nursing student would recognize the crucial role of leadership development in shaping their career, starting early in nursing school. The third-year Ryerson student consistently tells peers at every opportunity just how leadership makes you a more rounded person, gives you transferable skills, and prepares you for life as an RN. She is grateful for these opportunities to support and inspire other students, and admits that mentoring provides her with the get-up-and-go she needs to propel her own career forward. "If I'm feeling down, and I know I have the capability to help others, it energizes me instantly," she says. Considering how much Susan has accomplished as a student, her energy levels must be off the charts. Susan, who is currently the Region 7 student assistant lead (she will become executive student lead next year), has led several initiatives to support her peers, including producing a booklet with tips for first-year students on how to succeed, and facilitating labs for first-year students to practise their nursing skills in a supportive environment. She also successfully recruited 170 students from Ryerson to join RNAO, and spearheaded a fundraising campaign for the Ryerson chapter of the Canadian Nursing Students Association (CNSA) that raised approximately \$23,000 to fund 33 students to attend CNSA conferences in 2013 and 2014.

RNAO RECOGNITION AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON, DURING THE AGM

Leadership Award in Nursing Administration

This award honours an RN who shows exemplary management skills in an acute, long-term, community, education, research or other setting. This individual actively implements groundbreaking ideas to enhance patient care, and demonstrates a commitment to improve the quality of health care.

Melanie Kelly understands the day-to-day challenges of her staff. That's because she manages the same unit where she started as a frontline RN at Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences nine years ago. "My staff know I'm not going to ask them to do anything I wouldn't do myself," she says. Melanie is clinical manager for two units at Ontario Shores: geriatric psychiatry and geriatric dementia.

She also teaches a course on psychogeriatrics. For Melanie, breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health is a passion. She also strives to stay connected with her staff on both a professional and personal level, touching base with them every morning. She understands you can't always leave your personal life at the door. Melanie has shown her dedication to professional development by consistently obtaining new certifications in nurse leadership and management, and asks for the same commitment to education from her staff. "The field is changing and I want my nurses to be at the top of the chain," she says.

Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Academic)

This award is presented to the RN who excels as a nursing educator in a university or college. The winner enhances the image of nursing by encouraging critical thinking, innovation and debate on nursing issues, and acts as a role model and mentor.

Leslie Graham recognizes that nursing and health care are always evolving, so nursing education must do the same. One of just 300 people worldwide certified as a Healthcare Simulation Educator, Leslie is a champion for the use of technology driven simulations in nursing education, which she incorporates into her teaching to allow students to experience real-world challenges. "You can read about it in a book, but when you actually get to do it, you engage with the content in a different way," she says. Leslie has been described as an "emerging star" in the field of technology enhanced education, and has co-authored three books on simulation – one of which was named Book of the Year from the *American Journal of Nursing*. She is also a powerful advocate for her students. As co-ordinator for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology-Durham College RPN-to-BScN program, she knows her students are often juggling full-time work along with their studies, and will do whatever she can to help them succeed. "If a student aspires to something, I will be relentless in trying to assist them."

Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Staff Development)

This award is presented to the RN who excels as a nursing educator in a health-care organization. This individual acts as a role model and mentor, and enhances nursing by encouraging critical thinking, innovation and debate.

Lisebeth Gatkowski's career took a dramatic turn during a performance appraisal in the mid 1990s, when a manager asked her what educational opportunities she might want to pursue. She was a staff nurse, and admittedly hadn't thought much about further education. On a whim, she suggested taking a mental health nursing program at McMaster University. "That opened my mind to so many new opportunities," she recalls. In the two decades since, Lisebeth has dedicated herself to education for herself and others. She now works as a nurse educator at St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton, and teaches a mental health nursing certificate program at Mohawk College. She strives to be constantly learning as the nursing profession evolves, and encourages other nurses to build their knowledge base to enhance their practice. She also values research, and has participated on panels for two of RNAO's best practice guidelines. Lisebeth advises upcoming nurses to keep their mind open to new opportunities. "If you're not willing to take a risk, you'll never know to what heights you can soar."

Leadership Award in Nursing Research

This award is presented to an RN whose work supports the implementation of innovative and progressive nursing practice that leads to positive patient and nurse outcomes.

Sue Coffey isn't known for doing things the traditional way. Throughout her well-decorated career, the nursing professor at University of Ontario Institute of Technology has thrown away the rulebook

and taken her own path. Sue has eschewed traditional nursing research, and instead focuses her attention on nursing education research, where her passion lies. "Nursing and health care are changing every day, so nursing education is critical to advancing our profession right from the beginning," she says. Her innovative work has had far-reaching implications for education, and helps countless students take non-traditional paths. She developed the internationally educated nurse program at York University, and conducted important research on programs to bridge education from RPN to BScN nursing. Sue strives to create educational programs to break down barriers, create pathways for non-traditional learners, and make the nursing profession more accessible. She says this award is recognition that educational research is an integral part of the nursing field. "How we educate our future workforce is critical to how nurses will practise tomorrow."

Leadership Award in Political Action

This award recognizes an RN who initiates and partakes in political action that benefits the health of individuals, clients, or profiles or positively positions nursing.

When **Mary Mueller** takes up a cause, she runs with it. The veteran public health nurse for the Region of Waterloo has dedicated much of the last dozen years to the treatment and prevention of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). She hopes her work will save a lot of suffering from this entirely preventable condition. Her tireless advocacy has taken her in front of the government's Select Committee on Developmental Services, onto the cover of *Registered Nurse Journal*, RNAO's flagship publication, and into a prominent role of co-chair in the provincial FASD ONE prevention working group. She pioneered RNAO's work on FASD by bringing forward a resolution at the 2012 annual general meeting with her colleague and mentor Kathy Moreland Layte, and developed an educational strategy on FASD in partnership with the association. Along the way, she's learned some valuable political lessons. "You have to speak politicians' language," she says. "Nurses have always had the evidence, we just had to get it to the right people." Mary, who also advocates for the health of immigrants and refugees, is proud to see nurses more involved in policy. "That's where we'll make the biggest difference."

Leadership Award in BPG Implementation

This award is presented to an RN who practices excellence and enhances the image of nursing by using or encouraging the use of best practice guidelines (BPG) in the workplace.

Implementing BPGs in one organization is no easy task, so co-ordinating implementation through eight organizations across seven Local Health Integration Networks can be a major challenge. But it's a challenge **Cindy Fajardo** has taken on with a warm, cheerful attitude. When she took on the role of clinical practice manager for the Ontario Telemedicine Network's new Telehomecare program, Cindy recognized the need for evidence-based practice right from the get-go. Her program applied for Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) status shortly before launching nearly four years ago. "We didn't want to start from scratch, we wanted to leverage RNAO's expertise in BPG implementation," she recalls. Since then, she's led the implementation of seven guidelines across the province. A dedicated mentor who loves to teach, Cindy developed the Telehomecare curriculum and processes to ensure that the latest best practices are incorporated. She says Telehomecare is a perfect fit for her because it marries her passions for innovation and health care, and she expects the program to grow as Ontario increasingly relies on home and community care to support chronic disease management and prevention.

Chapter of the Year

This award goes to the chapter or region without chapters that best demonstrates commitment to RNAO through active participation in RNAO initiatives.

RNAO's Halton chapter may be small, but it is mighty, says its president Karimah Alidina. Its membership is relatively low compared to neighbouring chapters, but that hasn't stopped the chapter from having a major impact over the past year. Its banner year included building relationships with local politicians through RNAO political events such as *Queen's Park Day*, *Queen's Park on the Road*, *Take Your MPP to Work*. The chapter executive also focused on

improving the health of Halton nurses by hosting workshops on healthy eating habits and zumba classes. With the community in mind, the group hosted a *Dialogue on Suicide Awareness*, which addressed an important issue within the Halton region. Karimah says the highlight of the year was a Nursing Week art competition for local school children, who were asked to draw a picture of what nursing means to them. This, coupled with the chapter's Nurse of the Year award, showed local members how appreciated they are. "It's our way to say thank you to our members for their vision and their dedication."

Interest Group of the Year

This award honours an interest group that demonstrates teamwork and leadership, influences decision-makers and involves members in RNAO initiatives.

With more than 2,000 members spread across 11 active chapters, and working in a variety of different sectors, the **Gerontological Nursing Association of Ontario (GNAO)** has worked hard to develop a dynamic communications strategy to effectively engage its diverse membership. "We wanted to be able to connect as efficiently in the Greater Toronto Area as we do in Thunder Bay and North Bay," says Julie Rubel, GNAO president. Over the past few years, the group completely redesigned its website to make it more user-friendly, and revamped its newsletter to better inform membership. GNAO's goal is to foster person-to-person dialogue among nurses who are passionate about this area of nursing, and highlight people working in the field, says Julie. The group also provides cutting-edge professional development opportunities, with each chapter delivering at least two educational events each year. Engaging students is also paramount for GNAO. It offers free membership to more than 700 students, and recently created two student liaison positions on its provincial executive. "Students are the future of gerontological nursing," Julie says. "It's important to give them a voice."

INTEREST GROUP EXHIBITS

Carmichael and Jackson Rooms

Organization	Table Number
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Mental Health Nursing Interest Group (MHNIG)	27
Nurse Practitioners' Association of Ontario (NPAO)	28
Ontario Correctional Nurses Interest Group (OCNIG)	29
Ontario Family Practice Nurses (OFFPN) and Canadian Family Practice Nurses Association (CFPNA)	30
Parish Nursing Interest Group (PNIG)	31
Pediatric Nurses Interest Group (PedNIG)	32
Rainbow Nursing Interest Group (RNIG)	33
Staff Nurse Interest Group (SNIG)	34

2015 EXHIBIT PROGRAM

Fees paid by the 2015 exhibitors and sponsors assist the association with costs incurred.

In appreciation, we ask that you consider their support when you and/or your organization are making future purchasing decisions.

Toronto Ballroom Foyer

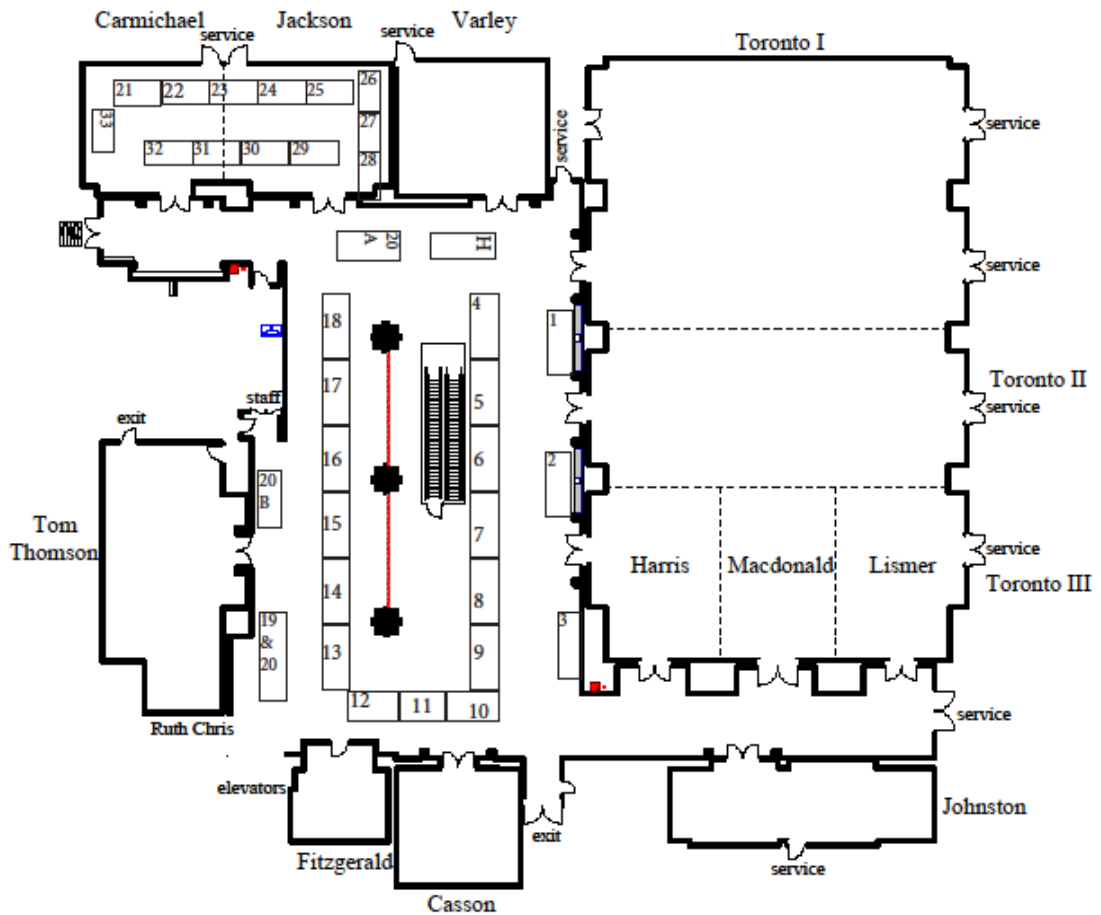
Company	Booth Number
RNAO Help Desk	H
HUB International	1
Fifth Avenue Jewelry	2
Clinical Nurse Specialist Association of Ontario	3
Canadian Nurses Association	4
Investors Group	5
York University, School of Nursing	6
Cancer Care Ontario	7
Healthcare of Ontario Pension Plan	8
D'Youville College	9
Nursing Leadership Network of Ontario	10
Registered Nurses' Foundation of Ontario	11
Calmoseptine Inc.	12
Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner	13
RNAO Membership	15
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RNAO Nursing & Health Policy	17
Covidien	18
RNAO IABPG	19 & 20
Acupuncture Canada	20A
College of Nurses of Ontario	20B

2015 Exhibitor & Interest Group Floor Plan



Convention Level

2015 Exhibitor and Interest Group Booth Floor Plan



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- **Coverage for the entire family** – your spouse and dependents may be eligible
- **Additional bundling discounts**, including multi-vehicle, claims free and more
- **No monthly service fee** – your current provider may charge you extra fees which we waive
- **Customer service excellence** – 24/7 claims assistance

Instant Insurance Quotes 24/7 at www.HUBRNAO.ca

1.877.582.5813

HUB GIVES

We heard about the need local RNAO Chapters can have for financial assistance, and wanted to let you know we're here to help. **HUB GIVES provides your Chapter with access to up to \$500 to help your community project get going.**
(For more info, contact Patti Hogg at RNAO at 416.408.5618)



Our thanks

RNAO extends its sincere thanks and appreciation
to the following:

2015 AGM Planning Committee
Including Clinical Nurse Specialist Association Co-Chairs

Clinical Nurse Specialist Association Volunteers

Riek van den Berg – Parliamentarian

Arlene de la Rocha – Chief Scrutineer

Joyce Shack – Chief Scrutineer

Scrutineers

Consultation Representatives

RNAO Provincial Nominations Committee

RNAO Provincial Resolutions Committee

RNAO Interest Groups

Exhibitors and Sponsors

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