Recognition Award Descriptions

Leadership in BPG Implementation Award
This is awarded to the registered nurse (RN), nurse practitioner (NP), or Ontario-based health-care organization that promotes excellence in nursing practice, and nursing work-life balance. The recipient of this award works to enhance the image of nursing through the committed use, and advancement of RNAO’s best practice guidelines (BPG) in the workplace.

President’s Award for Leadership in Clinical Nursing Practice
The RNAO President’s Award for Leadership in Clinical Nursing Practice is awarded to the registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who consistently demonstrates expertise and evidence-informed practice in one or more areas of clinical practice in a staff nurse position. This member enhances the role of nursing by demonstrating nursing leadership in her/his workplace and influencing change for the betterment of patients, families and/or communities. The winner(s) of this award will receive a $2,000 scholarship or $2,000 towards attending the next Canadian Nurses Association or International Council of Nurses conference. Funding for this award is generously provided by HUB International Ontario Limited, RNAO’s group home and auto insurance provider.

RNAO Lifetime Achievement Award
RNAO Lifetime Achievement Award is bestowed on long-standing members of the RNAO who exemplify outstanding contributions to the profession of nursing in the areas of practice, education, administration or research, at the provincial, national and/or international level. This includes activities that promote RNAO among nursing colleagues, the government and other health-care partners.

Honoured Friend of Nursing Award
The Honoured Friend of Nursing Award is awarded to individual(s) who have made outstanding contributions to the nursing profession. The individual will have shown outstanding leadership and collaboration within the nursing community at a provincial level.

RNAO Award of Merit
The RNAO award of Merit is awarded to a registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who has made outstanding contributions to RNAO and the nursing profession in Ontario. This resourceful individual is a change-maker, advocating for, promoting and initiating changes to improve healthy public policy through RNAO initiatives. This person serves as a resource and mentor contributing to and enhancing the role of the RN/NP in Ontario.

RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Staff Development)
The RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Staff Development) is awarded to a registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) that practises excellence as a nurse educator in a health-care setting. This individual enhances the role of nursing by encouraging critical thinking, innovation and debate about important nursing issues, and acts as a role model and mentor in their work environment.
RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Academic)
The RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Education (Academic) is awarded to the registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who practises excellence as a nursing educator in a college or university setting. 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 in their work environment.

RNAO Leadership Award in Student Mentorship
The RNAO leadership award in Student Mentorship is awarded to the registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who demonstrates outstanding practice as a nurse educator, mentor or preceptor in health care. This individual enhances the role of the RN and/or NP by encouraging critical thinking, evidence-informed practice and initiates discussion about important nursing issues that encourage action and change. This individual is resourceful, adapting teaching to maximize learning opportunities that will contribute to student engagement and action.

RNAO Student of Distinction
The RNAO Student of Distinction Award recognizes a current undergraduate nursing student who has made significant contributions acting as a change agent, resource, and mentor within her/his undergraduate nursing program. This individual must show active involvement in RNAO Region/Chapters/Interest Groups.

RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Research
The RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Research is awarded to the registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) that actively explores innovative ideas in nursing research. This individual enhances the image of nursing by engaging in efforts to disseminate research knowledge, and is in dialogue with RNs, NPs and nursing students to identify nursing research needs. The member has a proven ability to attract research funding and actively participates in the activities of professional organizations.

RNAO Leadership Award in Political Action
The RNAO Leadership Award in Political Action is awarded to a registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who acts as a change agent, resource, and mentor through political action. This individual is actively involved in discussions with MPPs/MPs, other decision-makers, and media that benefit the health of individuals, or communities.

RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Administration
The RNAO Leadership Award in Nursing Administration is offered to the registered nurse (RN) or nurse practitioner (NP) who provides exemplary nursing management by acting as a change agent, resource, and mentor within their professional setting. This individual actively collaborates with health-care teams to enhance patient care through the development and implementation of innovative and creative strategies.
RNAO Chapter of the Year
The RNAO chapter of the year award is awarded to the RNAO chapter or region without chapters (RWC) that best exemplifies a commitment to RNAO through active promotion, participation and initiation of projects that promote healthy public policy and the role of the registered nurse (RN), nurse practitioner (NP) and nursing students in their region. The chapter or RWC uses a variety of media and communication tools to effectively engage with their region; influence decision-makers and mobilize RN/NPs for action. The chapter or RWC demonstrates strong leadership in their nursing and health-care community. The chapter's activities reflect RNAO’s ENDS.

RNAO Interest Group of the Year
This award is given to an RNAO Interest Group that best demonstrates commitment to the nursing profession and active participation in RNAO initiatives. The interest group effectively communicates through a variety of means, which influences decision-makers and mobilizes registered nurses (RN) and nurse practitioners (NP) for action. This interest group exhibits exemplary teamwork and strong leadership within the nursing and health-care community.

RNAO Promotion in a Nursing Program Award
The RNAO promotion in a Nursing Program Award is awarded to an Ontario nursing education program that successfully promotes RNAO within its program and/or nursing school campus. This organization demonstrates student engagement with RNAO initiatives and activities through political, media-related and public activities. Students show active involvement in RNAO and initiate activities that enhance healthy public policy and the role of the nursing student/RN/NP in Ontario.

RNAO HUB Fellowship
The RNAO HUB Fellowship gives you the opportunity to get in the thick of things with a one-week placement with RNAO’s CEO. The $2,000 HUB Fellowship is generously sponsored by RNAO’s group home and auto insurance provider, HUB International Ontario Limited.