



ORNGT (periOperating Room Nurses of Greater Toronto) Annual Report
June 8, 2007

The Executive Committee consists of Sharon Gabriel, President; Linda Whyte, President Elect; Anne Marie Dutka, Secretary; Cherry Day, Treasurer; Linda Leong, Membership Registrar; Rosa Gembe, Marketing; and Bernie Chiu, Merritt Burstein, Nina Brown and Charlie Byer, Program Committee.

The executive set three goals.

1. Name change to periOperating Room Nurses of Greater Toronto, in support of the other regions and across the country.
2. Build on the existing web site. Linda Whyte is working with our Web Master to develop the ORNGT website which will include our Annual “Year @ a Glance”, meeting minutes, Golf Tournament information, membership registration, scholarship links to both ORNAO and ORNAC, as well as our own scholarship applications. We expect this to be live for September 2007.
3. Review and standardize the scholarship process.

The program committee, under the direction of Nina Brown, continues to build a strong educational component to the ORNGT bimonthly meetings. We are pleased to showcase Nurses speaking about Nursing!

October 2006, Dr. Sherry Espin, RN continued to inform us about her on-going research, ‘Error in Surgery: A Study of OR Team Members Perceptions’. The membership was tested to decide what were reportable incidents, misses and near misses. The discussion was boisterous and we were pushed to think about what we face each and every day in the OR.

December 2006, Loretta Morson had us laughing in the aisles. This presentation had people talking at the Provincial conference in Ottawa and Loretta was already slated to speak in Victoria, BC at ORNAC. Her topic ‘Chicken Soup for the Perioperative Nurse Manager’ offered nuggets of thoughts and ideas.

February 2007, Sharon Gabriel and Nurallah Rahim presented on The Scarborough Hospital’s (TSH) response to a recent TASS (Toxic Anterior Segment Syndrome) outbreak. TASS was featured in AORN this past winter. TSH remains TASS free and continues to receive phone calls from facilities working to eradicate this problem.

Charlie Byer presented ‘Donation after Cardio-circulatory Death (DCD). A Journey toward a New Gift of Life’. This presentation reminds us that organ donation rates have remained

stagnant for the past several years. The Trillium Gift of Life has "...accepted the recommendations of their governing body for the need to implement DCD. A DCD donor is a person whose death is defined by irreversible cessation of cardio-circulatory and respiratory function rather than brain death." This issue was also addressed at the recent ORNAC meeting in Victoria, BC, April 2007.

Membership has stabilized at 290 of which more than 1/3 are RNAO members or CPN(C) certified. Linda Leong keeps this information in a database that is updated every six months. Kudos Linda for managing this information.

Approximately 10-15 people wrote the CPN(C) exam this year and at this writing they are waiting for their results.

The June dinner will see a new President, Linda Whyte. Nina Brown and Merritt Burstein will be leaving the Program Committee. Linda Leong will be looking for someone to manage the data in the membership registrar role and Anne Marie will be looking for someone with minute taking skills. We look forward to another year of presentations that increase our knowledge and give us the tools to articulate our role and increase our presence in health care!

Sharon Gabriel
President